

Hafa Adai!

Rota official charged with importation of contraband. **PAGE 2**  
SYP brings Coach Pain to Saipan to motivate students. **PAGE 3**

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By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**T**he U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission filed yesterday in federal court a sexual harassment and sex discrimination lawsuit against Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC and Imperial Pacific International Holdings Limited for allegedly subjecting some female VIP service hosts to unwelcome physical and verbal sexual harassment by IPI casino's male patrons known as high rollers.

*Saipan Tribune* was waiting comments from IPI as of press time yesterday.

EEOC, through counsel regional attorney Anna Y. Park, alleged that the hostile work  
**See EEOC on Page 4**

## EEOC files suit vs IPI for sexual harassment, sex discrimination



### IAO acquires interpreter machine

By **IVA MAURIN**  
iva\_maurin@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Indigenous Affairs Office recently acquired an interpreter machine to make the Chamorro and Carolinian languages more accessible to people who do not know how to speak it.

The machine, which is a first for the island, will be used in events to facilitate real-time translations, as part of IAO's mission to

**See IAO on Page 4**

IVA MAURIN

From left, Indigenous Affairs Office case worker Vicente T. Salas II, resident director Roman Tudela Jr, and project officer Cris Ogo pose with the interpreter machine the IAO acquired to facilitate real-time translations in public events promoting local language on the island.

## NEARLY A YEAR AFTER YUTU DEVASTATION NMC campus 50% complete

By **MARC A. VENUS**  
marc\_venus@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Although the Northern Marianas College has seen total devastation in the wake of Super Typhoon Yutu, they have done everything it can to make its campus a safe and viable space for its students.

In fact, NMC acting president Frankie Eliptico said the As Terlaje campus is 50% complete with the construction of the Student Transition Center, which acts as a site for students to interact while waiting for classes which holds 100 to 150 students.

He added that NMC has

completed repairs on its J Building for its Cooperative Research Extension & Edu-  
**See NMC on Page 4**

MARC A. VENUS

Super Typhoon Yutu caused a lot of destruction on the Northern Marianas College campus in As Terlaje.



### INSIDE



#### LOCAL

The Marianas participated in 21th Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival in Nagoya, Japan on Aug. 23-25, 2019.

**PAGE 6**



#### BUSINESS

The CNMI Department of Commerce and the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network will host a public workshop today.

**PAGE 17**



#### LIFE & STYLE

Ta-Nehisi Coates' first novel, "The Water Dancer," has been a long and eventful journey.

**PAGE 21**



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## Local

## Rota official charged with importation of contraband

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General has filed a criminal case against Rota Mayor's Office's special assistant for pro-

grams and grants for allegedly importing on Rota undeclared household goods last year.

The OAG charged 31-year-old Aubry Hocog with one count of importation of contraband.

Hocog was not arrested as she was only summoned to appear yesterday before the Rota Superior Court. According to court's calendar, her arraignment will be this Friday at 9am.

*Saipan Tribune* tried but failed yesterday to get comments from Hocog.

According to the information filed by assistant attorney general Frances T. Demapan, on June 17, 2018 on Rota,

Hocog concealed for the purpose of importation undeclared household goods, with the total sum of the items being subject to excise tax.

Demapan said the items include seven doors, one refrig-

erator, one washer, one dryer, 20 tiles, one bunk bed, and four paint buckets.

The prosecutor said the offense carries a maximum punishment of five years imprisonment and \$2,000 fine.

## Charcoal manufacturer gets 6 months in jail for CW fraud

The president and part-owner of a company that manufactures charcoal on Saipan was slapped in federal court Monday with six months of imprisonment for engaging in fraud in the applications for CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program (CW) permits.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona gave defendant Mizanur Khan credit of time served.

Manglona ordered that upon release from imprisonment, Khan will be placed on three years of supervised release.

Immediately upon release from prison, the defendant will be required to report to immigration official for deportation proceedings.

Khan was ordered to pay a

\$5,000 fine and \$100 in special assessment fee. He was also ordered to pay \$800 in restitution to Monir Hossain, who is one of the four victims.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley, counsel for the U.S. government, moved to dismiss five other counts of charges as part of the plea deal.

The judge granted the motion.

Manglona allowed Khan to remain on release under the same terms and conditions that was just reinstated by the court.

Khan was ordered to report to the U.S. Marshals Office or U.S. Probation Office when notice is given to report and surrender.

Colin Thompson served as the court-appointed counsel for Khan.

Khan served as president and part-owner of K.C.A. Corp. He signed a plea deal with the U.S. government and pleaded guilty last January to count two of the indictment charging him with fraud and misuse

of a visa.

Visa fraud carries a maximum penalty of not more than 10 years of imprisonment and a fine not to exceed \$250,000.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, in May 2015 and continuing until Nov. 4, 2015 in the District of the NMI and in the Republic of Bangladesh, Khan and

unindicted co-conspirators Muksedor Rahman and Karim Dhali told Monir Hossain that in exchange for a fee payable to Muksedor Rahman, he could obtain a work visa in the U.S.

Khan and unindicted co-conspirators Muksedor Rahman and Karim Dhali told Monir Hossain that Khan's company, K.C.A. Corp. would employ him as a "charcoal maker" for at least one year, at a wage of \$6.05 per hour, for at least 40 hours per week.

On June 6, 2015, Khan sent via the U.S. Postal Service, a I-129CW petition on behalf of Monir Hossain to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services California Service in California.

As part of the application package, Khan included a

contract of employment for Monir Hossain specifying that he would work for K.C.A. Corp. as an "operation service worker (charcoal processor)," for a period of one year, for at least 40 hours per week, at \$6.05 per hour.

Khan, certified under penalty of perjury, that all the information contained in the petitions was true and accurate.

At the time he submitted the I-129CW petitions on behalf of the beneficiary, Khan was not able and did not intend to provide Monir Hossain with a job as described in the contract.

The USCIS, based in part on the false contract, and false attestations of Khan, issued CW-1 worker status for Monir Hossain.

On Aug. 5, 2015, Khan obtained a CW-1 permit on behalf of Monir Hossain knowing it had been unlaw-

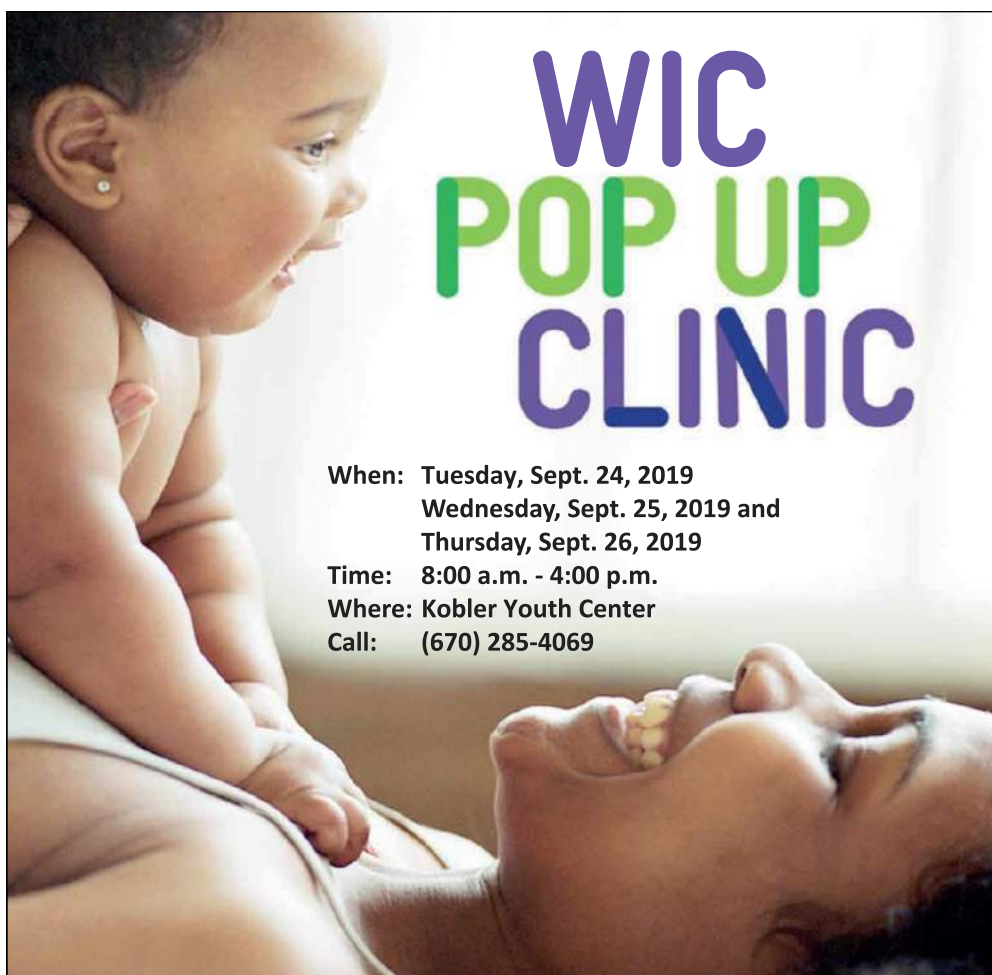
fully obtained and procured by means of a false statement and fraud.

Last September, Khan's co-defendant, Kosuke Tomokiyo, pleaded guilty to count 4 of the indictment charging him with fraud and misuse of visas and permits.

Last March, Tomokiyo, a Japanese national, was sentenced to one year of probation. He was ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine.

According to court documents, Tomokiyo was the vice president and part owner of K.C.A. Corp.

On Aug. 22, 2016, Khan and Tomokiyo falsely represented to USCIS that Tomokiyo had previously been and was to be employed by K.C.A. as a "sales manager," and that Tomokiyo had been employed in that capacity since January 2016. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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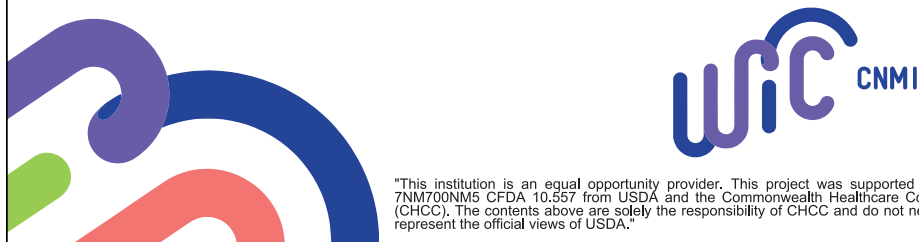
**When:** Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2019  
Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2019 and  
Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019

**Time:** 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Kobler Youth Center

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## SYP brings Coach Pain to Saipan to motivate students

IVA MAURIN

Motivational speaker Dewayne "Coach Pain" Montgomery with Saipan Southern High School senior students and the Saipan Young Professionals after his mini-session at the school yesterday.



IVA MAURIN

Motivational speaker Dewayne "Coach Pain" Montgomery inspiring students at Saipan Southern High School to "really live," move beyond obstacles, and find their purpose. Coach Pain is here on the island for the first time as part of Saipan Young Professionals' youth outreach on mental wellness.

By IVA MAURIN  
iva\_maurin@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Dewayne Montgomery, better known as Coach Pain, is on island for a series of motivational speaking events on emotional and mental wellness for the NMI youth.

The series is part of the Saipan Young Professionals' outreach campaign to local public high schools to provide a fresh perspective on an emotional and/or mental level, to help students make professional and personal changes in their daily lives and within themselves.

Montgomery talked about really living and finding purpose, overcoming pain, and individual strength.

"Be passionate about your lives. There are no obstacles greater than you. Look yourself in the mirror and say if it's meant to be, it's up to me. Every morning, wake up with that attitude. Carry the positive, not the negative," Montgomery said, addressing the senior students yesterday at Saipan Southern High School.

"Your strength is important. What you carry inside is so important and so impactful in people's lives. People are depending on you. Ten years from now, somebody will be waiting on you to help them," he added.

SSHS principal Vince dela Cruz, recognizing that students go through unwanted stress from still recovering from the typhoon, from home issues, and in their personal relationships, hopes that through presentations such as Montgomery's, the youth will get presented with strategies on how to better deal with the anxiety and stress that goes with such situations.

Dela Cruz believes that the students, even though they are good kids, need a lot of support and guidance on how to go through the daily lives and how to deal with stress.

"They are students but they are also humans," dela Cruz said. "And just like us, they go through stress. As adults, we have [already] experienced it out there so we know how to go through it. But the students here don't."

Senior student Nehemia Fernandez said after the talk, they [students] started talking to each other a little bit about what they are going through, and that they got inspired to continue moving forward and take on challenges.

"As teenagers nowadays, especially on this island and after what we've gone through, there are people who are still too down and out," Fernandez said. "They need some motivation, some

more support from people like Montgomery, and with him there, it's going to help a student, not only maybe emotionally and mentally, but also physically."

Aside from Saipan Southern High School, Coach Pain, through the Saipan Young Professionals, also went to Marianas High School and Kagman High School.

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**Board of Trustees**  
**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9911, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation hereby gives notice that a Special meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 7:30 am in the CEO's Conference Room 3 located at the Administrative Offices.

CHCC Board of Trustees Special Meeting  
September 26, 2019 at 7:30 am

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Public Comments
- V. To vote and approve Applications for Privileges:  
New Applicants:
  1. Dr. David Khorram
  2. Noel Barnes, NP
  3. Nancy Osakwe, NP
  4. Dr. Jonathan McNeely
  5. Dr. Nicholas Vandemoer
  6. Dr. Alan Zevallos
- Renewal Applicants
  7. Dr. David Grauman
  8. Dr. Mark Heisterman
  9. Dr. Morgan Howland
  10. Dr. James Toskas
  11. Keith Longuski, PA
- VI. Adjournment

P.O. Box 500409 CK, Saipan, MP 96950  
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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**BOARD OF PROFESSIONS LICENSING**  
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Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P. L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Board of Professional Licensing (BPL) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its board meeting on **September 25, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Board's Conference Room at Bldg. #1242, Pohnpei Ct., Capitol Hill, Saipan.

**AGENDA**

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairman's Report
  - Welcoming and presenting the Executive Director for the Appraisal Subcommittee, Mr. Jim Park
- VII. Director's Report
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
  - A. Governor's Office
  - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business
- XII. Applications for Board's Review
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with counsel with pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
  - A. Next Meeting Date
  - B. Adjournment of Meeting

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**PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

In accordance with the "Open Government Act", the Public School System State Board of Education, through their Special Education State Advisory Panel (SESAP), is hereby serving notice to the general public that it will hold its **4th Quarter Meeting on Friday, September 27, 2019 from 9:30pm to 11:30am** at the **Nami Room, Kanoa Resort, Susupe Saipan**. This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome.

**AGENDA**

- I. Preliminary Matters
  - Roll Call
  - Presence of a Quorum
  - Adoption of Agenda
  - Adoption of Minutes
  - April 22, 2019
- II. SESAP Annual Report
- III. Miscellaneous
  - A. PSS and OVR Cooperative Agreement
- IV. Adjournment

In compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting, but require accessibility such as large print or sign language interpreters must call 237-3029/3012. Several days notice is necessary to allow organizers ample time to make necessary arrangements.

/S/ Manuela Mendiola  
Chairperson

/S/ Suzanne Lizama  
Director, Special Education Program



# Settlement Fund proposed budget for FY '20 is \$46M

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The NMI Settlement Fund's proposed fiscal year 2020 budget is \$46 million, which is \$1.2 million less than the fiscal year 2019 budget of \$47.2 million.

Settlement Fund trustee Joyce C. H. Tang discussed the Fund's budget in her report filed Friday with the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Tang's report covered the combined period from the fourth quarter FY 2017 through the third quarter FY 2019. Tang will present the report before U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood tomorrow, Thursday, at 9am.

Tang said the proposed total benefits and refunds payment for FY 2020 is \$43.7 million as compared to \$44.9 million in FY 2019 budget.

Tang said the total refunds in the proposed FY 2020 is \$685,000 as compared to only \$60,000 in the FY

2019 budget.

Tang said the increase of \$625,000 in total refunds under refund of contributions represent refund of the overpayments made by class 1 Fund members who paid the actuarially determined equivalent of Class II member contributions in order to retire without penalty pursuant to Public Law 13-60.

Tang said the Settlement Fund discovered that the NMI Retirement Fund had incorrectly applied compound interest rather than simple interest in computing the amount due from each retiring Class 1 member.

Tang said this amount (\$685,000) will be paid out by November 2019.

The trustee said there is an increase of \$49,267 in personnel cost which is attributed to the need to adjust key employees' salaries to be in line with the salary range paid to federal employees without the locality pay as well as budgeting for an ad-

ditional in-house counsel.

She said retaining key employees is critical to the ongoing operation of the Settlement Fund.

Tang said the proposed total professional fees for FY 2020 is \$858,000 as compared to \$945,000 in FY 2019, or a decrease of \$87,000.

The trustee said the increase of \$75,000 in legal fees is to provide for fees for Class counsel (subject to court approval), in addition to hiring for administering hearing officers and arbitrators.

Tang said the \$130,000 increase for utilities under general and administrative expenses covers Federal Emergency Management Agency's consumption.

FEMA's monthly rental payments include utilities. FEMA leased the second and third floor spaces in November 2018, immediately after Super Typhoon Yutu struck Saipan and Tinian in October 2018.

Tang said as work was

winding down, FEMA reduced its leased space at the second floor and a portion of the third floor.

She said FEMA currently pays a monthly rental of \$24,436, which covers office space, utilities, and cleaning of the common area.

Tang said the office space rental from FEMA has garnered a total of \$342,303 in rental income for the Settlement Fund as of Aug. 31, 2019.

The rentals from FEMA, she said, cover the additional amounts over the insurance proceeds needed for repairs of the Settlement Fund building.

Tang said the Settlement Fund building on Capital Hill sustained damage from Super Typhoon Yutu also requires maintenance work.

She said the Settlement Fund submitted a claim for \$109,580.95 and after deducting the deductible of \$25,000, received \$84,580.95 in insurance pro-

ceeds for typhoon repairs.

As of Sept. 15, 2019, the trustee said, the Settlement

Fund has spent \$149,623 on the repair and maintenance of the building.

## IAO

From Page 1

protect and ensure the continued use of the local language.

"We encourage the use of our language in vernacular," IAO resident director Roman Tudela, Jr. said. "This is promoting language. A lot of events now are all done in English. This is one step on our mission to start exposing our kids to our language."

The acquisition of the machine is also part of the application of the elements identified during last year's Chamorro and Carolinian Identity Conference.

The Chamorro Working Group identified language as an element to be focused on, which includes translation, aside from literature, media, and educational materials.

With four transmitters (which comes with microphones) and 60 receivers, up to 60 people will be able to access translation services during events that call for the use

of the local language.

"This is an interpreter machine and the way this one works is you have an interpreter with a transmitter, and the receiver will get a headset," Tudela explains.

"The interpreter will be translating whatever is being said by the presenter, interpreting on the fly, so people who do not understand the language can have a receiver and be part of the program, and understand what is being said."

The IAO intends to apply the Chamorro language in any public events, and the machine will be made available for use for any public purpose concerning the promotion of the local language. Organizations who will have a public event to promote the local language would just need to register with and contact the IAO.

The IAO will be hosting, with the Carolinian Affairs Office, the 3rd Annual Chamorro and Carolinian Identity Conference this Thursday, Sept. 26, at the Napu Room of the Pacific Islands Club.

## EEOC

From Page 1

environment became intolerable and caused many of the claimants to be constructively discharged.

Park also alleged that defendants subjected claimants to unlawful retaliation by threatening to terminate those who engaged in protected activities, reduced their breaks, imposing additional work duties, and/or terminating/constructively discharging them.

Park said the defendants engaged in sex discrimination in the terms and conditions of employment by imposing different duties and assignments that women were forced to perform which men were not forced to perform as VIP service hosts.

EEOC asked the court to issue a permanent injunction enjoining IPI and their officers from engaging in sexual harassment, retaliation, and any other employment practice which discriminates on the basis of sex.

EEOC asked the court to order defendants to institute and carry out policies, practices, and programs to ensure that they would not engage in further unlawful employment practices.

EEOC requested the court to order defendants to make the class of aggrieved individuals whole by providing compensation for past and future pecuniary losses, including appropriate backpay and front pay with prejudgment interest of any lost pay and benefits, in amounts to be de-

termined at trial.

EEOC also demanded payment to the class of aggrieved individuals for damages and for court costs.

According to Park in the EEOC lawsuit, in 2015, the executive director of Imperial Pacific, Yuki Yu Xia, interviewed and hired claimants and others to work as VIP service hosts and managers for IPI's Best Sunshine casino on Saipan.

Park said as the executive director of Imperial Pacific, Xia was a member of Imperial Pacific's board of directors and executive committee.

Park said Xia developed marketing strategies for VIP guests at the casino on Saipan, marketing analysis, investment strategy, product marketing, and annual sales planning.

Park said Xia regularly traveled to Saipan at least 14 times between 2015 and 2016 to supervise and direct the work of Best Sunshine's VIP service hosts and other managers like Best Sunshine's vice president for investor relations and vice president of VIP operations on Saipan.

Park said more than 30 days prior to the filing of this lawsuit, the female employee filed a charge of discrimination with EEOC alleging violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act by IPI, including the allegations that other female employees were subject to harassment and discrimination.

Park said EEOC then investigated the charge of discrimination.

Park said that on Sept. 6, 2018, EEOC issued to defen-

dants a letter of determination finding reasonable cause to believe that defendants had violated Title VII by subjecting charging party and a class of similarly situated individuals to sex discrimination (female), sexual harassment, sex-based harassment (female), assignment on the basis of sex (female), constructive discharge, and retaliation for engaging in a protected activity.

Park said EEOC engaged in communications with defendants to provide defendants the opportunity to remedy the discriminatory practices described in the letter of determination.

Park said EEOC was unable to secure through informal methods of conciliation from defendants an agreement acceptable to EEOC.

Park said since at least 2015, Imperial Pacific and Best Sunshine engaged in unlawful employment practices by subjecting the charging party and a class of female employees to unwelcome sexual conduct by male patrons, sex discrimination (female), constructive discharge, and retaliation.

Park said the male patrons were high rollers and known to defendants.

She said the male patrons were specifically targeted to generate business for the defendants and given special attention by the VIP service hosts.

Park said a charging party worked for defendants as a VIP service host and that from December 2015 to August 2016, defendants' male patrons subjected her to regular and repeated sexual

harassment.

The harassment included repeated touching and comments of a sexual nature, and grabbing her arm by a male patron with the intention of taking her to his hotel room for sex.

Park said the charging party was forced to quit in August 2016 when she found the sexual harassment by male patrons to be intolerable.

Park said the sexual harassment that other similarly situated aggrieved female employees were subjected to, included being required to swim in bikinis with male patrons while being subjected to repeated touching and comments of a sexual nature.

They were allegedly asked to demonstrate a French kiss by male patrons, forcefully kissed on the lips by a male patron, pushed by a male patron onto a sofa with the intention of being forced to have sex with that male patron, and offered a house in return for having sex with a male patron.

Park said the sexual harassment by male patrons were unwelcome.

Park said Xia facilitated the hostile work environment by ordering claimants to change into bikinis and swim with male patrons, eat and drink alcohol with male patrons, and escort male patrons to their villas with specific instruction that claimants were to make male patrons "happy."

Park said Xia even told male patrons in front of the claimants that they could inappropriately touch claimants.

## NMC

From Page 1

ditional Services office and are nearing completions for its M Building, which houses the Language & Humanities department.

Eliptico said that these repairs are part of NMC's short-term recovery efforts. As part of the short-term recovery efforts, he said that they have added exterior lighting throughout the campus, as the NMC conducts evening classes, and added barriers to cover up the buildings that have yet to be demolished.

Eliptico said that NMC has sent a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Request for Proposals (RFP) regarding the demolition of the buildings that are currently covered up by the in-place barriers.

For its long-term recovery, NMC intends to rebuild an entirely different campus that will feature classrooms amongst instructional buildings, computer labs, specialty labs, a student resource center, student resource center, buildings for the different fields offered by NMC (Schools of Business, Nursing, Education, and Criminal justice), student housing, and a gymnasium.

NMC is currently in the process of receiving recovery funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, as the college has

been awarded funding through FEMA's Section 428, or Alternative Procedures Program.

Eliptico noted that the program allows NMC to use the reimbursed funds that would be provided for repairing different buildings, and use it for the construction of the new facilities of NMC.

Eliptico added that NMC has also applied for grants from the U.S. Economic Development Agency's Workforce Development Center, the Community Development Block Grant through the Northern Marianas Housing Corp., and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to aid NMC in its long-term recovery efforts.

NMC reported that it has lost 37 out of its classrooms from Super Typhoon Yutu. The CNMI's lone community college even had to conduct classes at Saipan Southern High School for about three months this year.

NMC also lost a number of its faculty offices, and were forced to use certain areas of the campus to make room for the faculty offices' relocations. Eliptico said that NMC had to demolish some of its buildings as they were deemed unsafe for use and cannot be repaired.

Currently NMC conducts its classes in a total of two classrooms and 24 temporary pods, 19 in the southern part of its campus and five in its northern part.



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Tang said the Settlement Fund discovered that the NMI Retirement Fund had incorrectly applied compound interest rather than simple interest in computing the amount due from each retiring Class 1 member.

Tang said this amount (\$685,000) will be paid out by November 2019.

The trustee said there is an increase of \$49,267 in personnel cost which is attributed to the need to adjust key employees' salaries to be in line with the salary range paid to federal employees without the locality pay as well as budgeting for an ad-

ditional in-house counsel.

She said retaining key employees is critical to the ongoing operation of the Settlement Fund.

Tang said the proposed total professional fees for FY 2020 is \$858,000 as compared to \$945,000 in FY 2019, or a decrease of \$87,000.

The trustee said the increase of \$75,000 in legal fees is to provide for fees for Class counsel (subject to court approval), in addition to hiring for administrating hearing officers and arbitrators.

Tang said the \$130,000 increase for utilities under general and administrative expenses covers Federal Emergency Management Agency's consumption.

FEMA's monthly rental payments include utilities. FEMA leased the second and third floor spaces in November 2018, immediately after Super Typhoon Yutu struck Saipan and Tinian in October 2018.

Tang said as work was

winding down, FEMA reduced its leased space at the second floor and a portion of the third floor.

She said FEMA currently pays a monthly rental of \$24,436, which covers office space, utilities, and cleaning of the common area.

Tang said the office space rental from FEMA has garnered a total of \$342,303 in rental income for the Settlement Fund as of Aug. 31, 2019.

The rentals from FEMA, she said, cover the additional amounts over the insurance proceeds needed for repairs of the Settlement Fund building.

Tang said the Settlement Fund building on Capital Hill sustained damage from Super Typhoon Yutu also requires maintenance work.

She said the Settlement Fund submitted a claim for \$109,580.95 and after deducting the deductible of \$25,000, received \$84,580.95 in insurance pro-

ceeds for typhoon repairs.

As of Sept. 15, 2019, the trustee said, the Settlement

Fund has spent \$149,623 on the repair and maintenance of the building.

## IAO

From Page 1

protect and ensure the continued use of the local language.

"We encourage the use of our language in vernacular," IAO resident director Roman Tudela, Jr. said. "This is promoting language. A lot of events now are all done in English. This is one step on our mission to start exposing our kids to our language."

The acquisition of the machine is also part of the application of the elements identified during last year's Chamorro and Carolinian Identity Conference.

The Chamorro Working Group identified language as an element to be focused on, which includes translation, aside from literature, media, and educational materials.

With four transmitters (which comes with microphones) and 60 receivers, up to 60 people will be able to access translation services during events that call for the use

of the local language.

"This is an interpreter machine and the way this one works is you have an interpreter with a transmitter, and the receiver will get a headset," Tudela explains.

"The interpreter will be translating whatever is being said by the presenter, interpreting on the fly, so people who do not understand the language can have a receiver and be part of the program, and understand what is being said."

The IAO intends to apply the Chamorro language in any public events, and the machine will be made available for use for any public purpose concerning the promotion of the local language. Organizations who will have a public event to promote the local language would just need to register with and contact the IAO.

The IAO will be hosting, with the Carolinian Affairs Office, the 3rd Annual Chamorro and Carolinian Identity Conference this Thursday, Sept. 26, at the Napu Room of the Pacific Islands Club.

## EEOC

From Page 1

environment became intolerable and caused many of the claimants to be constructively discharged.

Park also alleged that defendants subjected claimants to unlawful retaliation by threatening to terminate those who engaged in protected activities, reduced their breaks, imposing additional work duties, and/or terminating/constructively discharging them.

Park said the defendants engaged in sex discrimination in the terms and conditions of employment by imposing different duties and assignments that women were forced to perform which men were not forced to perform as VIP service hosts.

EEOC asked the court to issue a permanent injunction enjoining IPI and their officers from engaging in sexual harassment, retaliation, and any other employment practice which discriminates on the basis of sex.

EEOC asked the court to order defendants to institute and carry out policies, practices, and programs to ensure that they would not engage in further unlawful employment practices.

EEOC requested the court to order defendants to make the class of aggrieved individuals whole by providing compensation for past and future pecuniary losses, including appropriate backpay and front pay with prejudgment interest of any lost pay and benefits, in amounts to be de-

termined at trial.

EEOC also demanded payment to the class of aggrieved individuals for damages and for court costs.

According to Park in the EEOC lawsuit, in 2015, the executive director of Imperial Pacific, Yuki Yu Xia, interviewed and hired claimants and others to work as VIP service hosts and managers for IPI's Best Sunshine casino on Saipan.

Park said as the executive director of Imperial Pacific, Xia was a member of Imperial Pacific's board of directors and executive committee.

Park said Xia developed marketing strategies for VIP guests at the casino on Saipan, marketing analysis, investment strategy, product marketing, and annual sales planning.

Park said Xia regularly traveled to Saipan at least 14 times between 2015 and 2016 to supervise and direct the work of Best Sunshine's VIP service hosts and other managers like Best Sunshine's vice president for investor relations and vice president of VIP operations on Saipan.

Park said more than 30 days prior to the filing of this lawsuit, charging party Shirline Loh filed a charge of discrimination with EEOC alleging violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act by IPI, including the allegations that other female employees were subject to harassment and discrimination.

Park said EEOC then investigated the charge of discrimination.

Park said that on Sept 6,

2018, EEOC issued to defendants a letter of determination finding reasonable cause to believe that defendants had violated Title VII by subjecting charging party and a class of similarly situated individuals to sex discrimination (female), sexual harassment, sex-based harassment (female), assignment on the basis of sex (female), constructive discharge, and retaliation for engaging in a protected activity.

Park said EEOC engaged in communications with defendants to provide defendants the opportunity to remedy the discriminatory practices described in the letter of determination.

Park said EEOC was unable to secure through informal methods of conciliation from defendants an agreement acceptable to EEOC.

Park said since at least 2015, Imperial Pacific and Best Sunshine engaged in unlawful employment practices by subjecting the charging party and a class of female employees to unwelcome sexual conduct by male patrons, sex discrimination (female), constructive discharge, and retaliation.

Park said the male patrons were high rollers and known to defendants.

She said the male patrons were specifically targeted to generate business for the defendants and given special attention by the VIP service hosts.

Park said a charging party worked for defendants as a VIP service host and that from December 2015 to August 2016, defendants' male patrons subjected her to

regular and repeated sexual harassment.

The harassment included repeated touching and comments of a sexual nature, and grabbing her arm by a male patron with the intention of taking her to his hotel room for sex.

Park said the charging party was forced to quit in August 2016 when she found the sexual harassment by male patrons to be intolerable.

Park said the sexual harassment that other similarly situated aggrieved female employees were subjected to, included being required to swim in bikinis with male patrons while being subjected to repeated touching and comments of a sexual nature.

They were allegedly asked to demonstrate a French kiss by male patrons, forcefully kissed on the lips by a male patron, pushed by a male patron onto a sofa with the intention of being forced to have sex with that male patron, and offered a house in return for having sex with a male patron.

Park said the sexual harassment by male patrons were unwelcome.

Park said Xia facilitated the hostile work environment by ordering claimants to change into bikinis and swim with male patrons, eat and drink alcohol with male patrons, and escort male patrons to their villas with specific instruction that claimants were to make male patrons "happy."

Park said Xia even told male patrons in front of the claimants that they could inappropriately touch claimants.

## NMC

From Page 1

ational Services office and are nearing completions for its M Building, which houses the Language & Humanities department.

Eliptico said that these repairs are part of NMC's short-term recovery efforts. As part of the short-term recovery efforts, he said that they have added exterior lighting throughout the campus, as the NMC conducts evening classes, and added barriers to cover up the buildings that have yet to be demolished.

Eliptico said that NMC has sent a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Request for Proposals (RFP) regarding the demolition of the buildings that are currently covered up by the in-place barriers.

For its long-term recovery, NMC intends to rebuild an entirely different campus that will feature classrooms amongst instructional buildings, computer labs, specialty labs, a student resource center, student resource center, buildings for the different fields offered by NMC (Schools of Business, Nursing, Education, and Criminal justice), student housing, and a gymnasium.

NMC is currently in the process of receiving recovery funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, as the college has

been awarded funding through FEMA's Section 428, or Alternative Procedures Program.

Eliptico noted that the program allows NMC to use the reimbursed funds that would be provided for repairing different buildings, and use it for the construction of the new facilities of NMC.

Eliptico added that NMC has also applied for grants from the U.S. Economic Development Agency's Workforce Development Center, the Community Development Block Grant through the Northern Marianas Housing Corp., and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to aid NMC in its long-term recovery efforts.

NMC reported that it has lost 37 out of its classrooms from Super Typhoon Yutu. The CNMI's lone community college even had to conduct classes at Saipan Southern High School for about three months this year.

NMC also lost a number of its faculty offices, and were forced to use certain areas of the campus to make room for the faculty offices' relocations. Eliptico said that NMC had to demolish some of its buildings as they were deemed unsafe for use and cannot be repaired.

Currently NMC conducts its classes in a total of two classrooms and 24 temporary pods, 19 in the southern part of its campus and five in its northern part.



# Cannabis Commission already has draft regs to review

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Cannabis Commission last Monday noted that although they already had some form of piecemeal draft regulation on marijuana and its usage, it emphasized that some wrinkles have to be ironed out first before they can even start to discuss it.

Commission chair Nadine Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview that although there is already a draft regulation on the homegrown

aspect of marijuana in the CNMI, pending legal review from the Office of the Attorney General, pending actual assignment of a legal counsel for the commission, and pending other contributing factors leaves the new government agency tasked with promulgating regulations on the new substance reluctant in discussing the draft regulation.

“...We don’t want to work on something without knowing if it is abiding by [CNMI] law,” Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* in an inter-

view yesterday. “We really need that legal piece for us to move forward,” she said, confirming that draft homegrown regulations are already existing and just pending legal advice and review.

The commission already sent a formal request to the OAG, but no response had been received yet according to the chairwoman.

“While we are trying to get approval for the homegrown regulations, we are also working on the commercial [regulations]...but that is far from

being completed,” she said. She further pointed out that discussion on the homegrown regulations have not even taken place yet on the cannabis commission floor.

“We want a legal counsel in the room before deliberation [on the regulations],” she said.

The commission is tentatively scheduled to meet this Friday, however, Deleon Guerrero noted that the commission would not be discussing the regulations yet.

“Our first order of business as a commission is to promul-

gate our by-laws. We need to regulate ourselves before we start regulating the industry, so that is what is going to come out first before the homegrown registry regulations,” she said.

Deleon Guerrero further noted that the commission is still not operating on a budget since technically, the commission’s budget of about \$500,000 would be remitted come fiscal year 2020, which starts on Oct. 1, 2019.

“Because of that, it is hard for us to even staff the necessary people for us to move forward

in an efficient way,” she noted.

The commission is provided with 180 days upon its official creation, Sep. 12, 2019, to promulgate rules and regulations on cannabis use, cultivation, and selling in the CNMI. The commission consists of five members representing all islands, namely chair Nadine Deleon Guerrero and Matt Deleon Guerrero representing Saipan, Journie Hofschneider representing Tinian, Thomas Songsong representing Rota, and Valentino Taisacan representing the Northern Islands.

## Reviving culture at Chamorro and Carolinian Identity Conference

By **IVA MAURIN**  
iva\_maurin@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The CNMI continuous its work on cultural revival through this year’s Chamorro and Carolinian Identity Conference set tomorrow, Sept. 26, at the Napu Room of the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

This is the third of the annual identity conferences the Indigenous Affairs Office and the Carolinian Affairs Office have jointly organized, with the Governor’s Office, the CNMI Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, the Chamorro Carolinian Language Policy Commission, and the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture.

The event builds on last year’s conference, themed “Developing the Strategy for the Revival of our Identity,” where stakeholders identified elements on what needs to be done for the indigenous people, as well as what needs to be done to preserve local culture, language and identity.

IAO resident director Roman Tudela, Jr. stresses the significance of holding the conference in preserving cultural identity.

“This annual identity conference is important because we are all witnessing the absence of our culture, really,” Tudela said. “We see our language dying out. I know we’re doing a lot of cultural showcasing, but I think that we still need to do more.”

The annual conference started in 2017 where cultural stakeholders touched on issues on how actions of

culture could be promoted. NGOs and government departments with a mission to promote and preserve the local culture were invited to the conference.

“We did a working conference, a working group to really zero in our culture, on what we need to do in every aspect of revival,” Tudela said. “In the first conference, we focused in and established elements in our culture that we need to focus and touch

on. We identified eighteen elements and structured them.”

These elements include language; cultural ceremonies; architecture and monuments; beliefs and respectfulness; transportation; health and healing; practices when of age; traditional materials; decorations; food processing; visual and performing arts; games and play things; fishing, land hunting, and farming practices and materials; fighting and weap-

ons; cultural tours; teaching/learning, appreciating; hands-on experiences; and seasonal activities.

For this year’s conference, IAO will be focusing on six of these elements—language, cultural ceremonies, respect and beliefs, health and healing, transportation, and food processing.

On the other hand, through the Administration for Native American Grants, the CAO was able to accomplish the

essential elements they highlighted in last year’s conference that are essential to the preservation, promotion, and perpetuation of the local culture. For the conference, CAO will be speaking about the challenges that they faced, and that the office needs to work on.

These include the teaching of the local language to the youth; the making of *mwáár* by the locals; the investment of canoe building classes to promote awareness amongst the youth and tourists; bead

making and *utt* (canoe)-building classes; the promotion of music in schools; the harvesting and preparation of food, fish, and plants; the conduct of arts and crafts classes; classes on coconut oil making and other products made from the coconut tree and fruits; and classes on weaving basic products like baskets.

For more information about the Chamorro and Carolinian Identity Conference, contact the Indigenous Affairs Office at 664-2664 or the Carolinian Affairs Office at 234-6385.

  
**SAIPAN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**  
Office of the Mayor  
Municipality of Saipan

**NOTICE OF REGULAR SHEFA BOARD MEETING**

In accordance with 1 CMC § 9901 *et seq.*, as amended, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance September 26th, 2019 at 9:30 am at the SHEFA Office Conference Room, 2nd Floor, CTC Building, Oleai, Beach Road, Saipan.

**A G E N D A**

- I. Preliminary Matters**
  1. Roll Call
  2. Adoption of Agenda
  3. Adoption of Minutes from August 28th, 2019
- II. Public Comment**
- III. Reports**
  1. Administrator
  2. Chair
  3. Committee
    - a. Committee on Awards
    - b. Committee on Appeal/Deferments/Forbearance
    - c. Committee on Policy and Procedures
    - d. Committee on Program and Development
    - e. Committee of Fiscal, Legislative and Community Affairs
- IV. Old Business**
  1. Amendment to SHEFA Bylaws
  2. Saipan Local Law 21-5
- V. New Business**
  1. H.L.B. No. 21-28 (amended)
  2. Fall 2019 Application Status
- VI. Executive Session**
- VII. Misc.**
- VIII. Next Meeting**
- IX. Adjournment**

*Note: Meeting may continue the following day should the need arise.*

**MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122**  
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TEL: (670) 234-6547  
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In the Matter of )  
of the Estate of )  
MARCELA UNTALAN ) CIVIL ACTION  
HOFSCHEIDER, ) NO. 04-0564  
Deceased. )

**SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on February 2, 2016, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendant in and to the following property:

Legal description of the property: Lot no. 101 T 14 (part of the original Lot 101 T 05), situated in Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands.

Total area of the property: 11,537 square meters

Known encumbrances: None.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale: The sale will be held on Friday, October 18, 2019, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public. A copy of a title insurance report for the property is available to any prospective bidder upon request.

Terms and Conditions of Sale: The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 17th day of September, 2019:

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

**Juan T. Lizama**  
Attorney at Law  
P.O. Box 501508  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel. (670) 234-7220/483-2662

Attorney for Petitioner

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN RE THE MATTER OF: )  
ALEXANDER DLG. BORJA ) CIVIL ACTION  
Deceased. ) NO. 19-0292-CV  
NOTICE TO )  
CREDITORS )



**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on October 10, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Superior Court in Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, and Alex Olympio Borja will petition the court for Letters of Administration for his appointment as Administrator of the Estate of Alexander DLG. Borja, deceased. The attorney of record is Juan T. Lizama, whose address is: P.O. Box 501508, Saipan, MP, 96950.

Any interested person may appear at this hearing.

All persons having claim against the estate, or against the decedent should file their claim with the Clerk of the Superior Court of the Northern Mariana Islands within 60 days after the first publication of this Notice of Hearing.

Dated this 20th day of September, 2019.

/s/ CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

 **PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION 

**INVITATION TO BID (ITB)**  
**ITB 19-CHCC/DENTAL-001**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 01, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM**

**“DENTAL VAN – COMMONWEALTH  
HEALTHCARE CORPORATION – DENTAL**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN NOW DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP/INVITATION TO BID (ITB)) FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE ([WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP](http://WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP)). ONCE AT THE SIDE, NAVIGATE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP/ITB. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORAZON P. ADA  
CHC DIRECTOR OF P&S

 **PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
CNMI GOVERNMENT 

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**RFP NO.: DPW/SWMD19-RFP-005**

**SUBMISSION DATE: October 16, 2019 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**“MARPI LANDFILL OPERATIONS  
AND MAINTENANCE”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL SITE VISIT WILL BE HELD ON **September 30, 2019 AT 9:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME** AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE OF THE Marpi Landfill WALK THROUGH.



QUESTIONS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS October 10, 2019**. THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED WITHIN THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS AND WILL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA  
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

 **PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
CNMI GOVERNMENT 

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 19-DPW-140**

**SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 18, 2019 TIME: 09:30 A.M.**

**“CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS”**



COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA  
SECRETARY, DPW

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

 **PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
CNMI GOVERNMENT 

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 19-ZB-134**

**SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2019 TIME: 09:00 A.M.**

**“PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS “F” PICK-UP TRUCK  
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH ZONING BOARD OFFICE”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ MARIANO TAITANO  
CHAIRMAN, CNMI ZONING BOARD

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S



# Marianas team joins 21st Nippon Dommanaka Festival



MVA

Members of The Marianas delegation to the 21st Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival join the festival parade on Aug. 24, 2019, in Nagoya, Japan.



MVA

Indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian dancers of The Marianas perform on Aug. 24, 2019, at Hisaya-odori main stage of the 21st Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival in Nagoya, Japan.



MVA

The Marianas delegation to the 21st Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival visits Hisaya-odori Park in Nagoya, Japan.

The Marianas participated in 21th Annual Nippon Dommanaka Festival in Nagoya, Japan on Aug. 23-25, 2019, with a delegation of indigenous Carolinian and Chamorro dancers supported by Marianas Visitors Authority and Pacific Development Inc.

The festival featured approximately 20,000 dancers from throughout Japan, with a few international special performances, including The Marianas. The Marianas delegation also included 2019 Liberation Day Queen Pernalynn Camacho, 2019 Miss Earth Leisha Deleon Guerrero (who

also met with the director of Nagoya Bureau of Environment), MVA director Warren Villagomez, MVA managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo, and chair Bridget Maratita of the 2019 Liberation Day Royal Court Committee, and other individuals from The Marianas now living in Japan.

At Nagoya City Civic Reception House on Aug. 23, the delegation attended a welcoming reception hosted by Nagoya Mayor Takashi Kawamura and supporting council members and business

representatives.

"It's an honor for our Marianas Domannaka team to be invited each year to participate as a special guest in the Nippon Dommanaka Festival," said Iakopo. "The team was a crowd favorite!"

During the festival, the group performed at Hisaya-odori main stage, Pepsi Kiboh-no- izumi Park, Otsu Street Parade, and Yaba Koen Park and walked in the festival parade. The MVA's office in Japan coordinated the team's participation. (PR)

## IN SUIT OVER FORGERY OF INVESTOR'S SIGNATURE

### Federal court denies motion for entry of default

The federal court has denied an investor and his company's motion to issue a default judgment against two companies that he sued over the alleged forging of his signature and causing the fraudulent transfer of his \$200,000 worth of a company's shares.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, in an order last week, ruled that although there was no formal entry of default, had there been one, the court would have granted defendants Black Bison Travel Corp.'s and Jili Corp.'s motion to set it aside.

Manglona determined that that Black Bison and Jili Corp. have shown good cause as to why an entry of default should be set aside.

Manglona said representatives of Black Bison and Jili Corp. speak limited English and were not aware of the deadline to file their answer to the lawsuit until after it had passed, despite their efforts to obtain legal advice.

The judge said she sees no evidence of bad faith in defendants' conduct.

Manglona said defendants' counsel, William Fitzgerald, states that he contacted coun-

sel of plaintiffs Junjie Wu and Chimeng Science & Technology Co. Ltd. (CST) who agreed not to pursue the motion for entry of default and to allow the late filing of the answer.

"As such, the court finds no prejudice against the plaintiffs," Manglona said.

Wu and CST, through counsel Colin M. Thompson, are suing Black Bison, Jili Corp. and 10 other unnamed co-defendants, for fraud, conversion, breach of contract, unjust enrichment, and fraudulent transfer.

Wu and CST asked the court to hold defendants liable to pay them damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Plaintiffs filed their complaint last July 17. The defendants were then served with the summons and the complaint.

Plaintiffs Wu and CST then moved the court to enter default against Black Bison and Jili Corp. because they did not file an answer to their lawsuit. However, no entry of default was entered by the court's clerk.

The court then ordered defendants to show cause why the court should not enter a default judgment against them.

In his declaration filed in sup-

port of defendants' reply to the court's show cause order, Fitzgerald said defendants are Chinese and speak very little English.

Fitzgerald said when the complaint was served, nobody in their office understood what it was and they did not understand that an answer to the complaint had to be filed within 21 days.

Fitzgerald said defendants went to a local law firm, presented the front desk with the complaint and were told they would be contacted, but not told that there was a time limit to answer the complaint.

Fitzgerald said after failing to get legal advice from the office that they visited thrice, they were recommended to his law office and were seen last Aug. 26.

Fitzgerald said he checked with the court and found out that defendants had been served with the complaint last July 17, and that no answer had been filed.

The lawyer said he immediately sent an email to plaintiffs' counsel, Thompson, informing him that he would be representing Black Bison and Jili Corp. and could he agree to withdraw his motion for de-

fault and allow him to answer by Sept. 6, 2019.

Fitzgerald said Thompson agreed that he would not pursue the motion for entry of default and that he could file an answer.

Fitzgerald said he realizes that this informal way of solving the problem was not appropriate and that a motion, which included the reason for the tardy answer, should have been filed with the court.

On Sept. 6, defendants filed an answer, but failed to acknowledge plaintiffs' pending motion or the untimeliness of their pleading.

The court then issued an order directing defendants to show cause why plaintiffs' motion for entry of default should not be granted.

According to the complaint, Ji Li Corp. was established under CNMI laws in 2011 and that in late 2016, Wu as president and corporate representative of CST, had invested in Ji Li Corp.

On June 11, 2017, Wu was elected president and treasurer of Ji Li Corp. after he invested \$200,000 in exchange for 200,000 shares of the company. (Ferdie de la Torre)

## THE MARIANAS MONSTER MASH

### DCCA takes Halloween to next level

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs is hosting The Marianas Monster Mash, a Halloween event created for our islands to showcase a variety of costumes and bring some fun and excitement to the community.

"I am really excited. This will be the first year of this event and we really wanted to coordinate something different, so that after families go collect candy at the various traditional spots, they can come down and participate in the parade. I think it will be an exciting event for our visitors and it happens to be the case this year that it's on a Street Market Night. We are going to incorporate the costume contest, scarecrow contest, and it has a potential to be a much bigger event," said DCCA Secretary Robert Hunter.

The Marianas Monsters Mash will officially kick off on Halloween night with a "walk, roll and dance" parade beginning at the American Memorial Park and ending at the Garapan Street Market. Following the parade, will be the Costume Contest, the announcement of the Scarecrow

Show winner and Halloween Row.

DCCA invites the public to register for The Marianas Monster Mash. Registration is free and open to everyone.

The Marianas Monster Mash is made possible through partnership with the Office of the Mayor of Saipan, Marianas Visitors Authority, Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire and Medical Services, Commonwealth Health Care Corporation, Women's Affairs Office, Indigenous Affairs Office, Youth Affairs Office, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Motherhead/Fatherhead, Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority, National Park Service-American Memorial Park/Pacific Historic Parks, DCCA Child Care Licensing Program, DCCA Division of Youth Services, DCCA Commonwealth Respite Service Program, DCCA Sports and Recreation, and DCCA Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture.

For more information about the event, visit DCCA social media pages at @dccamarianas, call 788-2478 or email at dccamarianas@gmail.com. (PR)



# Carl Gutierrez appointed Guam visa czar

**HAGATNA, Guam**—Guam Gov. Lourdes “Lou” A. Leon Guerrero has officially assigned former Guam governor Carl T.C. Gutierrez (1995-2003) to spearhead her administration’s efforts to add the Philippines to the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program and to re-open Guam’s labor pipeline to Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) for hire on civilian construction projects and for other business purposes.

Leon Guerrero appointed Gutierrez as her chief advisor on Economic Development, National and International Affairs (Guam EDNIA) in January 2019.

Solving Guam’s two main visa challenges with the Philippines has remained his top priority since shortly after stepping into office. Earlier this month Gutierrez enlisted the endorsements of Philippine Sen. Manny Pacquiao and Congressman Rufus Bautista Rodriguez of Cagayan de Oro City, also of the Philippines, for Guam’s campaign to add the Philippines to the Visa

Waiver Program.

On Sept. 16, 2019, Gov. Leon Guerrero signed Executive Order No. 2019-22, which orders the Chief Advisor for Guam EDNIA to “research and develop a strategy to assist in the inclusion of the Philippines as an eligible country to the H-2A and H-2B Nonimmigrant Worker Program and as a member country of the Guam-CNMI [Visa] Waiver Program.”

“I am honored that Gov. Leon Guerrero recognizes, appreciates, and supports the relentless work EDNIA has been doing with the backing of her office as well as the Guam Economic Development Authority, Guam Department of Labor, and Guam Visitors Bureau,” Gutierrez said.

“And I am eternally grateful to the Duterte Administration and its highly capable cabinet officials for teaming with me to smooth the way for more efficient labor and visitation policies that will (a) help bolster lucrative remittances from Guam to the Philippines, (b) help the U.S. make Duty Station Guam as comfortable as possible for

our men and women in uniform while hardening our assets and accomplishing our nation’s strategic geopolitical objectives, and (c) help improve standards of living and the quality of life of Guam’s people,” Gutierrez added.

“Furthermore, Guam must retool, retrench, and rebuild to regain its edge within the highly competitive Asia-Pacific visitor industry.”

## A market ready for full bloom

Visitors from the Philippines account for about 20,000 of inbound travelers to Guam each year. But despite the substantial growth of the republic’s middle class, despite their relatively high per capita spending rates while visiting Guam, and despite their excitement to visit countless kababayans living in Guam, Philippine citizens are still required to obtain a visa before traveling to the U.S. territory. This visa requirement, cou-



**Gutierrez**

pled with restrictions on Filipino workers entering Guam, is perceived as a substantial barrier to visitor industry growth on an island that has been unable to get much past the 1.4 million visitor record it achieved in 1997. It finally tallied 1.55 million annual visitors in 2018.

Ready access to qualified labor and more borderless travel among regional outbound visitor markets would help build and fill sorely needed hotel rooms on Guam. And due to labor security restrictions now blanketing U.S. states and territories, visa-only vacationing isn’t the only federal policy preventing many Filipinos from entering U.S. Guam.

## The federal clampdown

After decades of allowing Guam contractors to hire Filipino temporary workers to help fulfill manpower quotas on jobsites, in recent years the federal government began instituting the wholesale rejection of local contractors’ foreign labor requests. The outcome was the result of an assertion by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) that Guam contrac-

tors had failed to establish a stipulated “temporary need” for foreign workers by neglecting the full development of a permanent local workforce. The application turn-down rate soon reached 100 percent. And the publication of a note in the January 18, 2019 Federal Register further complicated the issue by making official a new Department of Homeland Security (DHS) rule removing the Philippines from the U.S. H-2A and H-2B eligibility lists for 2019. That removal made the process of hiring Filipino temporary workers for Guam jobs more costly and complicated.

Although DHS raised concerns in the Register about a recent 40% overstay rate among Filipino workers admitted to the U.S. on H-2B temporary work visas, overstay rates on Guam have remained three percent or less. While the H-2A visa is for temporary agricultural nonimmigrant workers, the H-2B visa is for non-agricultural nonimmigrant temps. Both types of visas are issued to foreign nationals to fill temporary jobs for which U.S. workers are not available.

## The Philippines-Guam connection

For decades Guam contractors

have relied on skilled Filipino H-2B workers to help fulfill manpower requirements on jobsites. Over that time an intricate network of developers, builders, on-the-job-trainers, suppliers, government entities, lawyers, labor agencies, and affordable, reliable workers has become a reliable system with which local contractors are loath to part.

Somewhat encouragingly for Guam, the U.S. federal government has made an exception to the general rule against approving H-2A and H-2B workers from the Philippines. This is in order to allow thousands of qualified Filipinos to fill H-2B skilled worker vacancies created by an unfolding spate of federal contracting related to a multibillion-dollar military buildup on Guam.

But as federal contracts pile up and a variety of resort hotel construction plans remain on indefinite hold, demand for durable modern infrastructure and affordable housing in civilian Guam mounts, and the need for unique visitor attractions and retail variety pends until Guam’s various population demographics begin swelling rapidly in the next few years, right alongside employment levels and visitor arrivals. **(PR)**

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Guam to mail out \$24.4M in tax refunds

**HAGATNA, Guam**—The Department of Revenue & Taxation and the Department of Administration will mail 10,668 tax refund checks totaling approximately \$24.4 million including refunds garnished to repay government debts for error free returns filed on or before March 31, 2019. Due to the thousands of returns being processed, checks will be mailed between today and Monday. For inquiries, contact the Income Tax Branch of the Department of Revenue & Taxation at 671-635-1840 or Edward Birn, Department of Administration at 671-475-1250. **(PR)**

### Friends of the Arts special members meeting

Come and join us for a special occasion, a Friends of the Arts members meeting, today, Sept. 25, at the Infino Restaurant. Come and enjoy a delicious buffet dinner and musical entertainment by the Marianas High School Glee Club and the Community Choir.

Meet the FOA board and its members and sponsors. The dinner cost is \$16 for adults and \$8 for children under 11 in age. The Infino Restaurant is located on Beach Road in Garapan in the Star Sands Hotel where Tony’s Seafood used to be located, next to QQ Car Rental and across Beach Road from Johnny’s and Cheers. Please join us at 6:30pm.

You do not have to be a mem-

ber of Friends of the Arts to join us for this special evening.

Please make a reservation by contacting Frank Gibson by e-mail at [flgibson@yahoo.com](mailto:flgibson@yahoo.com) or by phone or text at 287-7476. Early reservations are important so we can let the restaurant know how many to prepare for. **(PR)**

### Military to conduct training in open ocean

**SANTA RITA, Guam**—The U.S. Navy will conduct open-ocean exercises from 8am to 4pm on Sept. 24 and 25 within a 10-nautical-mile radius of the following coordinates: 13 03°N/144 51°E, 13 03°N/144 70°E, 12 86°N/144 70°E, and 12 86°N/144 51°E.

It is recommended the general public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. **(PR)**

### The SIS 5K Fun Run is back!

After many years SIS is hosting another 5K Fun Run. Along with the Gecko 5000 Cross Country Invitational, more than 200 participants will be heading to Banzai Cliff and Last Command on Sept. 28, 2019. Registration is at 6am and start time is a 6:30am.

There are prizes and shirts for the fun/run participants. You can register the same day of the event or pre-register at SIS Office. Cross Country runners must register through their coach before the event.

All proceeds will go to purchase much needed instructional materials for all grades. **(PR)**

### Inspections for pest breeding sites

The Bureau of Environmental Health, together with the Saipan Mayor’s Office, Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality, Department of Public Lands, and Zoning Office, is going into the villages on Saipan to inspect and remove debris that could become breeding sites for pests like mosquitoes and rodents, as well as animals that carry disease.

The inspections will begin in Koblerville, San Antonio, Afetna, and Chalan Kanoa, before moving north. The public is advised to leash their dogs for the safety of the inspectors.

Residents may contact the Mayor’s Office at (670)234-620 for assistance in the removal of debris. For further information, contact the BEH at 670-664-4870/2/3 or email [john.tagabuel@dph.gov.mp](mailto:tagabuel@dph.gov.mp). **(PR)**

### Pro-life walk/roll on Sept. 27, 2019

Grace Christian Ministries Navy Hill is inviting the public to join them for a candlelight prayer walk/roll on Friday, Sept. 27, at 5:30pm, at the Minachon At-dao. Its purpose is to pray over the many needs of the island related to the issue of abortion. After the worship songs and prayer there will be a walk/roll to Quartermaster Road then back to Minachon At-dao. **(PR)**

## Over 8K lbs of trash collected during Micronesia Cleanup Day

**HAGATNA, Guam**—Last Friday’s Micronesia Cleanup Day resulted in the collection of 8,240 lbs of trash. Cleanup sites included Tagachang Beach, Pagat Cave, Marbo Cave, and Tanguisson Beach. The Leon Guerrero-Tenorio administration hosted the initiative in support of a regional effort to tackle climate change.

In addition to smaller waste items, trash collected also included 14 white goods/appliances (refrigerators, freezers, and stoves), commercial and tin roofing, a pickup bed, two mattress sets with metal frames, five vehicles, 53 tires, and two loads of green waste.

“Though it was not the initial intent of this cleanup, we

are grateful that this trash has been removed and no longer poses a threat to human health, especially in light of two locally acquired cases of the dengue virus. It is alarming to hear how much trash was collected in a few hours. We urge all residents to do their part to minimize the risk of spreading the dengue virus, which is transmitted through mosquitoes. They can do so by eliminating mosquito breeding sites around their homes,” said Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero.

Micronesia Cleanup Day was a direct result of Leon Guerrero’s participation in the Micronesia Island Forum held in Chuuk earlier this year. Hundreds from Guam, Palau,

the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia performed cleanups on their islands simultaneously.

“We are overwhelmed by the support from our community, and we look forward to future initiatives with our brothers and sisters in Micronesia. A unified effort ensures we have the greatest impact on combating issues such as climate change or even the spread of the dengue virus,” said Lt. Gov. Josh Tenorio.

For photos of the Micronesia Cleanup Day held on Guam, visit the Islandwide Beautification Task Force Facebook or Instagram page @ibtfgu. **(PR)**

### 45TH ANNIVERSARY GIVEAWAY

To mark its 45th anniversary, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. is giving away free car service maintenance gift certificates to 45 lucky winners throughout 2019. In this photo, Pacifica Insurance staff member Jacky Teregeyo, right, presents prize winner Viani Dela Cruz, left, with the car service gift certificate. Dela Cruz will be entitled to the Gold Service package at Joeten Motor Co., which includes free oil change, adjustment of tire pressure, 28 multi-point inspections, and other services. For more information about this car service giveaway log on to [www.pacificains.com/45years](http://www.pacificains.com/45years). **(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)**





# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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### EDITORIAL

## With Global Climate Strike, youth are fighting for their future—and our present

**O**n Friday morning, more than a thousand teenagers in Philadelphia joined youth in cities all over the country and the world to protest the government's inaction in the face of the existential threat of climate change. The Global Climate Strike was started by 16-year-old Swedish activist Greta Thunberg. Earlier this week, Thunberg testified in Congress. Instead of submitting a written testimony for the record, she submitted the U.N. report on climate change that predicts that the window to act before damage is irreversible will close in 2030. Her request to lawmakers: "I don't want you to listen to me. I want you to listen to the scientists."

Lawmakers in Pennsylvania are not listening to the scientists. While other states like Washington, New York, New Jersey and Maryland have put forward bold policies to cut down on emissions, Pennsylvania's divided government has lagged behind. That is particularly concerning because Pennsylvania ranks fifth in state energy-related CO2 emissions in part due to the natural gas fracking industry — a practice that some Democratic presidential candidates propose to ban.

According to a recent USA Today report, nearly 200 new natural gas power plants are going to open nationwide over the next decade or so, 24 of them in Pennsylvania.

In the short term, new plants bring jobs and tax revenue. But while gas production is cleaner than coal, it is by no means a clean source of energy. We need to be clear-eyed about the environmental impact and the costs of being a leading energy state. In fact, many of the costs of climate change are already here.

The Global Climate Strike comes on the heels of a very hot summer. July was the hottest month ever recorded globally and Philadelphia felt the heat — for the entire month the temperature did not drop below 81 degrees. This extreme prolonged heat has a tangible impact on the health of people who don't have access to air-conditioning, especially elderly who are more prone to dehydration.

The heat is not the only problem that climate change is causing today.

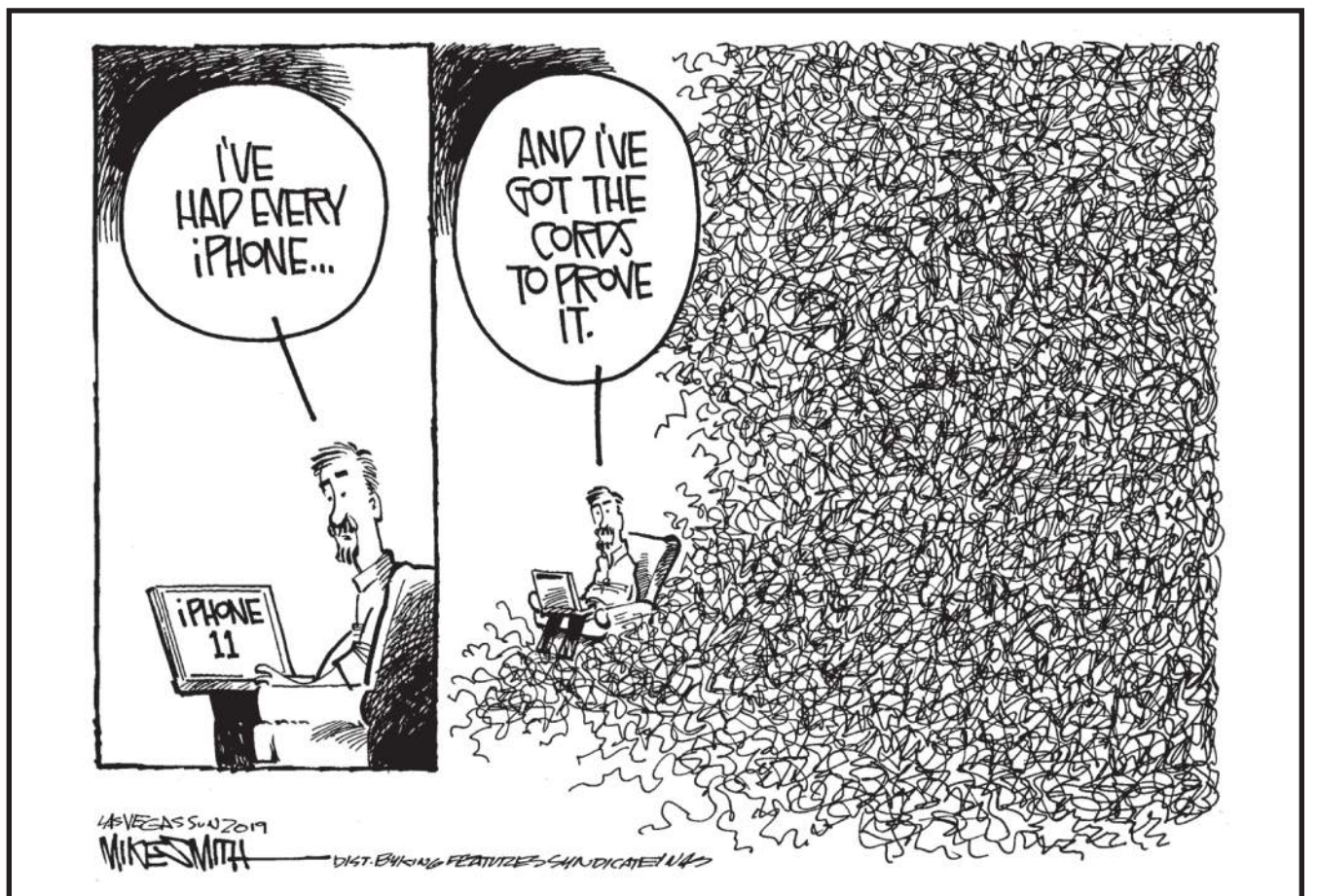
The Philadelphia International Airport is looking to expand. That's challenging, considering that it is built on the banks of the Delaware River. The planned development of a 150-acre cargo zone would bring more economic activity to Philadelphia but requires that the land first be elevated to ensure it remains usable during storms and as sea levels rise.

Water absorption capacity is critical. A sudden and intense storm over Labor Day Weekend carried trash and raw sewage into Philadelphia's clean water — a growing problem for a city with an antiquated sewer system after decades of wetter and wetter years.

A hotter and wetter climate comes with a staggering price tag: about \$300 billion a year by 2100. It is foolish to believe that we are not already paying a chunk of that.

The impacts of climate change are here, they are now, they are deadly, and they are costly. It's time for local and state lawmakers to realize that their decisions have a direct impact on their constituents today — but also on Earth itself and our collective future.

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## Trump's disdain for allies backfires

**A** strange thing happened when the Trump administration tried to recruit an international coalition of naval forces to protect oil tankers in the Persian Gulf this summer: Nobody wanted to sign up.

Almost nobody, anyway. Britain, usually America's closest ally, said no — but then acquired a new prime minister, Boris Johnson, who said yes. Bahrain joined; the Arab kingdom is the landlord to the U.S. Navy headquarters in the gulf. Australia agreed to send an airplane and a frigate.

And that, until recently, was the entire coalition: four countries, only two of which contributed substantial forces. Even Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, whose oil was being protected, didn't join up until last week.

Recruiting old allies to help protect the tankers that carry oil to help power the world's economy shouldn't have been so hard. But when a president denounces the idea of alliances, slams traditional allies as deadbeats, and changes direction without warning, even old friends hesitate to jump on his team. "President Trump has made it far more difficult to build coalitions and get people on our side when we need them," Ivo Daalder, a former U.S. ambassador to NATO, told me. "When you lose other countries' confidence, restoring it is hard."

Until recently, Trump's "America first" disdain for international alliances was mostly a theoretical problem, a source of anguish to foreign policy traditionalists, but little more.

Now it's a practical challenge too. The president is will speak Tuesday at the United Nations General Assembly, hoping to help organize a collective response to Iran's recent aggression, including its suspected role in last week's startling missile and drone attacks against Saudi Arabia's largest oil processing facility and a nearby oil field, sending global energy markets into a swoon.

But no other major nation appeared eager to join in a U.S.-led effort, whether it involves military action, economic sanctions or even mere diplomacy.

Britain, France and Germany echoed the United States in condemning the drone and missile attack, but that part was easy. Unlike the White House, they didn't point the finger at Iran.

And when Trump ordered new sanctions against Iran's Central Bank on Friday, no other country joined in. The president acted alone.

Trump's failure to build coalitions isn't surprising. He has long described alliances as unnecessary entanglements that impose costs on the United States but offer few benefits.

In 1987, he derided President Reagan's use of naval power to protect shipping in the Persian Gulf. "The world is laughing at America's politicians as we protect ships we don't own, carrying oil we don't need, destined for allies who won't help," he said.

Last year, on a visit to Europe, he repeated his long-held suspicion of NATO, the military alliance that kept peace in Europe for more than half a century: "It is time that these very rich countries

By **DOYLE MCMANUS**

Los Angeles Times

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either pay the United States for its great military protection, or protect themselves," he said.

Add the many complaints from other world leaders about Trump's undiplomatic style — his exaggerations and lies, his unreliability, his refusal to consider the interests of anyone but himself — and you have a list of reasons they don't view him as a trustworthy teammate, much less as team captain.

"Alliances are built on two things: mutual interests and mutual confidence," Daalder said. "Trump doesn't seem to get that."

All this was predictable, and predicted, after Trump withdrew from the 2015 nuclear accord with Iran that had been painstakingly negotiated by his predecessor, President Obama. Trump insisted he would force Iran back to negotiations through stiffer sanctions and made a stronger deal.

None of the five other world powers that had signed the accord agreed. They argued that the deal, flawed though it might be, was keeping Iran's nuclear ambitions in check.

Britain, France and Germany had asked for time to seek changes that might induce Trump to stay in the agreement, and the president initially agreed. But in May 2018, as the Europeans believed they were close to a deal with Iran, Trump abruptly pulled out. The British ambassador in Washington, Kim Darroch, called it an act of "diplomatic vandalism."

Then, when the White House launched a "maximum pressure" campaign with the avowed aim of crippling Iran's economy, Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo urged world powers to join in. The other signatories all refused and sought instead to keep the nuclear deal alive.

In June, after at least four foreign-flagged tankers were sabotaged in the gulf, Pompeo tried to build a maritime coalition, saying he hoped to recruit at least 20 countries. Then Trump weighed in.

"All of these countries should be protecting their own ships," the president tweeted. "We don't even need to be there."

Since the attacks on Saudi Arabia's oil infrastructure, however, White House aides say the president wants to marshal a joint international response. The allies are skeptical.

France and Germany said the best solution was for the United States to return to the 2015 nuclear agreement and

See **TRUMP** on Page 9



## EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Kutturan Natibu

**M**amaisen un`prohimu man-mañgge Chamoru. Hu ekuñgug pot hinisga lau tihu soda`konfütmasion na displantau i natibu.

Hu li`e na mafaisen hilu`sinipone kadu`faktu. Ke lau magahet na displantau i natibu? Siña un`esplika i kuestiomu para tali`e hechuraña i un`supopone na dinisplanta? I uttimu lini`e-hu mangaige i tautau-ta siha gi señgsuñg niha, mañgontentu.

Hita dumispopone ha`anita. Mañgabales tautau-ta siha. Siña ha`dispasu asuntun adelantu lau todumusun haf`guaha. I finaisen chatpega i apunterian kuestion. Mangaige ha`i Chamoru guine siha na petlas, diariu!

**Liñguahe:** Diariu hu huhuñgug manfinu`Chamoru i natibu. I liñguahita i kutturata pot ginen este na sahyan`nai mau`udai haf`tinatetta deste antigu na tiempu. Lokue`ta atan mona haf`mas benefisiosu na areglu siha para todum.

I tautau-ta matuñgu`haf`asuntun niha! Atan sa`fitme na areglu deste halum guma`familia huyuñg esta i señgsuñg siha. Lache i apunterian kuestion.

I hinanau tautau para sanlagu pot edukasion famaguon niha. Fitme na kinimiten mañaina para u atbansa yan adelanta ha`anen famaguon niha. Primera na disision!

Trabiha i natibun sankattan na Marianas fitme gi kutturana mina`chat-apuntau i kuestion ginen profettan karissu.

Insuttu para guahu pot klaru na masupone na esta hit man-displantau na tautague. Fitme i natibu gi asuntoña.

Lokue`, dimas de un`fama`profettan karissu atan haf`kontribusion-mu umasegura na ti maliñgu i Chamoru.

Maulegña kase ta describe bonitun tano`ta, asut tasi, apaka`mapagahes, asut na lañget, mangatbon flores, yan kustumbren tanu`gi este na karera.

■■■

**Hinanau:** Kutturan nasion`sino maseha haye na grupun tau-tau, matulalalika. Kontodu hita guine man-inaflekta deste antes.

Lau ta sustene mauleg na areglu siha para benefisiun todum.

Poresu na maseha dispasiu lau guaha adumididi`kampun adelantun tautau-ta siha.

Kontentu i natibu guine siha na petlas gi haf`sustansiaña yan modun linala`ña. Mauleg ta abiba hinanau todum gi anaku`na karera. Siempre tapan mattu guine na kilu`us i tumatachu gi chagu hogsu`i todum fumlalague diariu.

■■■

**Hula`:** I Chamoru diariu usun liñguahita. Poresu na guaha amtau na kinemprende gi entalu`familia yan tautau-ta siha. Ayu`nai bai adaheyu`an manfinu`Englis applying tat kumu, “don`play in da kattan guma`in da kareta come and chiniget you....”

■■■

**Usu:** Gi halum bisñietu(ta) puru finu`Eñglis. Gaige gi halum guma`este na liñguahe ni tumahgue finu`Chamoru. Ti siña tasa-ñgan na diskuidu pot rason na mesklau rasan mañainan niha.

Gi este na meskla mas maliñgu usun finu`Chamoru. Huñgan mau`usa bes enkuando lau mas i finu`Eñglis. Este ha`nai siña man-konbetsasion ya man-akomprende. Lastima!

■■■

**Uchan:** Poduñg sinparat na uchan señat na todum dia siempre ha poñgle-yu`gi kusunan san-hiyuñg. Hu soda`to`lañg ñañgu. Paire. Hu pikan kuattru ya hu tutuhun muna`lagun dispasiu.

Las ochu gi pueñge hu planta ya sumena ham yan asaguahu. Monhayan ham chumochu sin kuentus. Kase mañge`na katdun to`lang hombre acha lamlam sekus mame sin kumuentus!

■■■

**Liñguahe:** Makat i finu`Chamoru na liñguahe pot tai bokabulariu`nai siña un`deskrise asunto gi un`palabra. Lau gi hilu`impitu siña ta ta`lun pumunu`i matai tat kumu “matatatai”. Dispues de matai haf`mas para un`chogue?

An ha describe gi hilu`binibu ya anok lodu`gigat agaga`ña maulegña un`famatkilu. Tatnai sisida un`mana`e patten otu. Kase finañagu este ni tatkilu`haga`ginen kinano`ta! Dios mihu!

■■■

**Ineyag:** Gi karera man-eyag hit finu`Eñglis`nai ta chage

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.*



pronunsiasion “father” yan “mother”. Pot taya`“TH” gi finu`Chamoru ta pronunsia father kumu fader yan moder.

Maseha lache lau hihot esta yan propiu pronunsiasion. Adahe na gera ham yan i amku`pot fadet yan madet! Piot`nai hum-alum si tatahu ya ilegña, “Tell da true”. Truth! Hu dispensan maisayu`sa`tula noche siempre ayu na dibate. Finu`Mukanu!

■■■

**Inaya:** Gi dinaña`familia un`li`e ha`an hihot relasion mañe`lu. Puru grasiosu na konbetsasion yan chaleg. Namagof i fitme na inafamauleg. Man-apinitiyu unu yan otu`nai taya`minasa`inana`en gineftau gi haye munesessita ayudu. Inagofli`e!

**Katma:** Gi silensiu na finattun oga`an`sino lemlem tautau`nai guaha mas tiempog-hu manaitai asunto-ta siha. Libreya`umestudiaye yan analisa i asunto. Siempre baili`e kabales yan klaru umesgin manu i dopbladan sentimentu siha.

■■■

**Kamute:** Sessu antes hu ayuda un`bihan gi mapuhan kamute. Diberas na masahalum dispues de un`sague`i kuha kontra i edda`.

Dañkulu na ayudu kinisechan kamute guine na tiempu pot sumen chatsaga i tanu`. Guiya ayu na tiempu i hiniyuñg i Navy guine.

Pot huli`e benefisiun tinanum kamute ginen bihan mame na hu usune mananum para usun mame mismu. Sumen namagof i guahu humale`tinanom-hu para usun familia!

## A beginner’s guide to 10 common real-estate contracts

**F**or the uninitiated, talking through a real-estate deal can be a confusing experience. In fact, you may wonder if you even understood what was discussed. That’s because the world of real estate, like most fields, has its own language. Becoming literate in the lingo takes time and study. Fortunately, this article will give you a guided tour of 10 key agreements.

Most real-estate transactions involve three distinct stages. First, someone makes an offer. Second, the parties sign a contract governing what happens between the day the offer is accepted and the day the property formally changes hands. And, third, the parties sign a contract that transfers the property from the seller to the buyer.

The first agreement is an “offer.” This is when a person offers to buy or sell property to someone else. The offer should describe the property, the price, the down payment (also known as the deposit), how long the buyer has to buy the property, and a few other items. The other party then has four options: They can accept the offer, reject it, ignore it, or issue a counteroffer. The offer is usually the shortest and least formal of the real-estate contracts during a transaction.

If the parties agree, they will proceed to stage two: Executing an agreement governing what happens between signing the agreement and the transaction actually closing. This agreement has many names, depending on what kind of property interest is being sold.

Let’s discuss five versions. If the owner is selling fee simple title (which is the name for what most people think of as “owning” the property), the contract can be called a *sales contract*, a *purchase contract*, or a *purchase and sale agreement*. Each has the same meaning, but different lawyers will use different names based on personal preference. If, on the other hand, the seller is granting the buyer a new lease, then the contract will be called an *agreement to enter lease*. By contrast, if the seller owns a pre-existing lease, which they will transfer (i.e., assign) to the

buyer, then the contract will normally be labeled an *agreement to assign lease*.

What should go into these agreements? Start with the buyer and seller’s names, include a description of the property, and mention the property’s condition. For instance, is it empty land or is there a house or apartment building located on it? If the land has a building, does the building have appliances, furniture, and so on? This type of stuff is usually called FF&E (short for “furniture, fixtures, and equipment”).

From there, state what the buyer will get (such as a 55-year lease) and what the seller will receive (typically money, either all at once or in several installments over a period of time).

Next, the contract should say when the property must be transferred (i.e., the closing date) and who will pay for any costs involved with closing. These costs typically include paying an escrow agent and recording the contract in the government’s official land records (known here as the Recorder’s Office).

Finally, the contract should address a variety of contingencies. For example, under what circumstances can a buyer walk away? In what situations can a seller stop the deal? And what happens if either party fails to live up to their end of the bargain (i.e., if someone “defaults”).

If all goes well, the transaction proceeds to the third and final stage: Transferring the property from the seller to the buyer (i.e., closing). As before, the name of the contract depends on the circumstances. For purposes of today’s article, we will stick to four kinds of transfer contracts—a deed, a lease, a lease assignment, and a sublease.

Let’s start with deeds. There are more than a dozen kinds of deeds. But we’ll concentrate on the basic idea: A deed transfers title to a property from the owner to another person. In the CNMI, only people of Northern Marianas descent can hold this level of ownership thanks to Article XII of the CNMI Constitution. Generally, deeds are short documents—a page or two.

months, to do the same.

It’s especially piquant that Trump will use the U.N. as his platform to seek action against Iran. In his 2016 campaign, he dismissed the global organization as rife with “utter weakness and incompetence.”

**By JORDAN SUNDELL**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Jordan Sundell is a lawyer primarily practicing business and real-estate law. He formerly worked for the CNMI Supreme Court and Bridge Capital LLC and is now general counsel for several real-estate companies, including JZ Group. His columns—focused mainly on real estate and small business—are published every other Tuesday. jsundell@jzgroupinc.com*



More complicated is a lease, which is a contract that transfers property for a specific amount of time. In the CNMI, leases can last up to 55 years. Leases are more complex than deeds because the landlord and the tenant will have an ongoing relationship. Thus, there are many contingencies that a lease needs to address such as what happens if rent isn’t paid or the tenant wants to develop the property or the government takes the land through eminent domain.

Third is an assignment of lease. This type of contract transfers all of the tenant’s interest in a lease to a new tenant. These agreements focus on making sure that the original lease is still in effect and that the original tenant has not violated the lease.

Last is a sublease. This type of contract is similar to an assignment of lease. But whereas an assignment of lease transfers all of the original tenant’s rights and liabilities under the lease to the new tenant, a sublease is a partial transfer. So, for instance, if the original lease had 20 years left, but only transferred 10 to a new tenant, the contract would be a sublease.

Thus concludes our brief introduction to the wonderful world of real-estate contracts. If you’d like to know more or want to enter a real-estate transaction, consider speaking with a qualified professional.

Last week, he sounded a different note. “I’ve always felt the United Nations is very important,” he said.

Now, in a crisis that is partly of his own making, he sounds as if he could use an ally or two. He’ll look for some at the U.N. this week — and wonder, perhaps, why he finds so few.

## TRUMP

From Page 8

for Iran, which has violated some of its provisions in recent

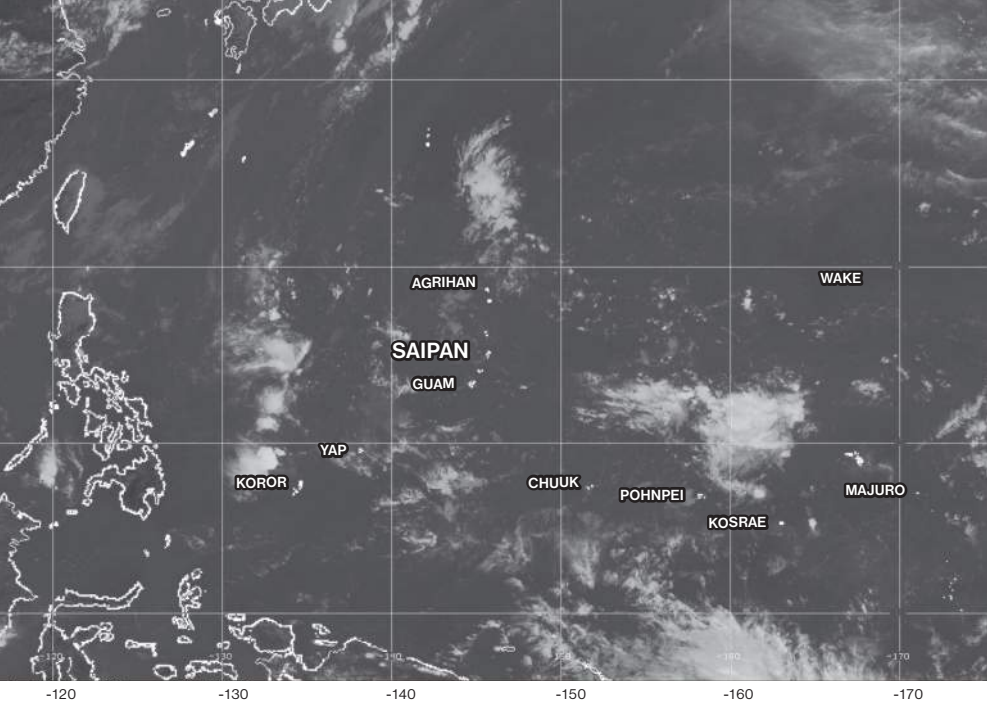


# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY  |     | THURSDAY   |     | FRIDAY   |     | SATURDAY   |     | SUNDAY                               |     |
|--|-----|--|-----|--|-----|--|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|
|  |     |  |     |  |     |  |     |                                      |     |
| Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. |     | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. |     | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. |     | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. |     | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |     |
| 88°  | 78° | 88°  | 78° | 88°  | 78° | 88°  | 78° | 87°                                  | 78° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



**PICTURE TIME: 6:41 AM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Showers are rapidly dissipating and clouds are thinning across the Marianas this morning. A weak but persistent monsoon trough lies east-west across the Marianas, resulting in light and variable winds. Combined seas at the buoys are around 4 ft.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

| MICRONESIA    |               |           | ▲▼°F |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|------|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorm  | 85° / 77° |      |
| Palau         | Mostly Sunny  | 86° / 78° |      |
| Yap           | Mostly Sunny  | 86° / 79° |      |
| Chuuk         | Thunderstorm  | 86° / 81° |      |
| Pohnpei       | Partly Cloudy | 88° / 77° |      |
| Kosrae        | Partly Cloudy | 88° / 77° |      |
| Majuro        | Thunderstorm  | 85° / 81° |      |

| AROUND THE GLOBE |               |           | ▲▼°F |
|------------------|---------------|-----------|------|
| Auckland         | Windy         | 55° / 54° |      |
| Beijing          | Mostly Sunny  | 88° / 59° |      |
| Hong Kong        | Sunny         | 88° / 79° |      |
| Honolulu         | Showers       | 87° / 76° |      |
| London           | Rain          | 64° / 61° |      |
| Los Angeles      | Sunny         | 85° / 68° |      |
| Manila           | Thunderstorm  | 88° / 79° |      |
| Melbourne        | Mostly Sunny  | 68° / 54° |      |
| Miami            | Partly Cloudy | 85° / 77° |      |
| New York         | Sunny         | 80° / 65° |      |
| Osaka            | Mostly Sunny  | 84° / 70° |      |
| Paris            | Showers       | 64° / 59° |      |
| Busan            | Mostly Sunny  | 77° / 68° |      |
| Rome             | Showers       | 75° / 63° |      |
| Salem            | Mostly Sunny  | 94° / 65° |      |
| San Francisco    | Partly Cloudy | 80° / 59° |      |
| Seoul            | Cloudy        | 81° / 63° |      |
| Tokyo            | Mostly Sunny  | 79° / 63° |      |
| Washington, DC   | Sunny         | 84° / 64° |      |

### NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY |           |       | FEET |
|----------------------------|-----------|-------|------|
| 3:11 AM                    | HIGH TIDE | 1.70  |      |
| 10:33 AM                   | LOW TIDE  | -0.06 |      |
| 5:47 PM                    | HIGH TIDE | 1.91  |      |
| 11:24 PM                   | LOW TIDE  | 1.07  |      |

| DAY      | SUNRISE | SUNSET  |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Today    | 6:06 AM | 6:11 PM |
| Thursday | 6:06 AM | 6:10 PM |
| Friday   | 6:06 AM | 6:09 PM |
| Saturday | 6:06 AM | 6:09 PM |
| Sunday   | 6:06 AM | 6:08 PM |

| DAY      | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|----------|----------|---------|----------|
| Today    | 2:08 AM  | 3:23 PM | -        |
| Thursday | 3:11 AM  | 4:17 PM | -        |
| Friday   | 4:14 AM  | 5:08 PM | -        |
| Saturday | 5:16 AM  | 5:57 PM | -        |
| Sunday   | 6:18 AM  | 6:44 PM | -        |

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com)

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

| DEPARTURES             |        |         |                          | ARRIVALS               |         |           |                          |
|------------------------|--------|---------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)      |        |         |                          | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN      |         |           |                          |
| UA117                  | 9:15am | 9:57am  | Daily                    | UA1747:30am            | 8:07am  | Daily     |                          |
| UA105                  | 6:25pm | 7:05pm  | 2, 4                     | UA104                  | 4:50pm  | 5:31pm    | 2, 4                     |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)    |        |         |                          | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN    |         |           |                          |
| BC802                  | 4:45pm | 7:30pm  | Sep 20 to 22             | BC801                  | 10:00am | 2:40pm    | Sep 20 to 22             |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)     |        |         |                          | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN     |         |           |                          |
| 7C3451                 | 3:30am | 6:30am  | 4                        | 7C3452                 | 9:05pm  | 2:10am+1  | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7         |
| 7C3451                 | 3:10am | 6:10am  | 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7         | 7C3452                 | 9:35pm  | 2:30am+1  | 3                        |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)     |        |         |                          | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN     |         |           |                          |
| TW308                  | 1:35am | 5:20am  | Daily                    | 7C3402                 | 9:30am  | 3:10pm    | Daily                    |
| OZ626                  | 2:20am | 6:00am  | 1                        | TW307                  | 7:00pm  | 12:35am+1 | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7         |
| OZ626                  | 2:50am | 6:30am  | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7         | TW307                  | 7:05pm  | 12:35am+1 | 1                        |
| 7C3403                 | 4:45am | 8:35am  | 1, 2, 3, 5, 7            | OZ625                  | 7:40pm  | 1:10am+1  | 7                        |
| 7C3403                 | 5:00am | 8:30am  | 4                        | OZ625                  | 8:15pm  | 1:45am+1  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6         |
| 7C3403                 | 5:00am | 8:50am  | 6                        | 7C3404                 | 10:10pm | 3:40am+1  | 1, 2, 4, 6, 7            |
| 7C3401                 | 4:10pm | 7:45pm  | 4, 7                     | 7C3404                 | 10:40pm | 4:10am+1  | 3, 5                     |
| 7C3401                 | 4:10pm | 8:10pm  | 1, 2, 3, 5, 6            |                        |         |           |                          |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)  |        |         |                          | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN  |         |           |                          |
| 3U8648                 | 6:10am | 8:50am  | 1, 4, 5, 7               | 3U8647                 | 10:30pm | 4:30am+1  | 3, 4, 6, 7               |
| SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)  |        |         |                          | HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN  |         |           |                          |
| JD396                  | 7:30am | 12:05pm | 1                        | JD395                  | 8:05am  | 3:30pm    | 4                        |
| JD396                  | 4:50pm | 7:55pm  | 4                        | JD395                  | 8:50pm  | 5:00am+1  | 7                        |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) |        |         |                          | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN |         |           |                          |
| 3U8646                 | 4:30am | 7:50am  | 2, 6                     | 3U8645                 | 8:10pm  | 3:10am+1  | 1, 5                     |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)   |        |         |                          | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN   |         |           |                          |
| MU764                  | 1:30am | 6:00am  | 3, 5, 7                  | MU763                  | 4:50pm  | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6                  |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)    |        |         |                          | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN    |         |           |                          |
| OZ626/701              | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN                | OZ702/625              | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1  | 7 via ICN                |
| OZ626/701              | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ702/625              | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA117/183              | 9:15am | 8:50pm  | 2, 5 via GUM             | UA192/174              | 9:45pm  | 8:07am+1  | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR         |
| UA117/183              | 9:15am | 9:10pm  | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM    | UA184/174              | 10:25pm | 8:07am+1  | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM    |
| UA117/193              | 9:15am | 10:40pm | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR         | UA184/174              | 11:30pm | 8:07am+1  | 2, 5 via GUM             |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) |        |         |                          | HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN |         |           |                          |
| OZ626/721              | 2:20am | 11:40am | 1 via ICN                | OZ722/625              | 1:10pm  | 1:10am+1  | 7 via ICN                |
| OZ626/721              | 2:50am | 11:40am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ722/625              | 1:10pm  | 1:45am+1  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UO43                   | 5:35am | 8:25am  | 1                        | UO42                   | 6:25pm  | 1:20am+1  | 7                        |
| UO43                   | 5:50am | 8:40am  | 3, 5, 7                  | UO42                   | 9:25pm  | 4:20am+1  | 2, 4, 6                  |
| UA117/159              | 9:15am | 9:50pm  | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM       | UA116/174              | 10:45pm | 8:07am+1  | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM       |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

| SAIPAN TO ROTA   |           |         |           | 1203 | 9:00AM  | 9:15AM  | Daily |
|------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|------|---------|---------|-------|
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY | 1204 | 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 1301             | 7:30AM    | 8:00AM  | Daily     | 1205 | 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 1302             | 11:30AM   | 12:00PM | Daily     | 1206 | 12:00PM | 12:15PM | Daily |
| 1303             | 4:00PM    | 4:30PM  | Daily     | 1207 | 1:00PM  | 1:15PM  | Daily |
| ROTA TO SAIPAN   |           |         |           | 1208 | 2:00PM  | 2:15PM  | Daily |
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY | 1209 | 3:00PM  | 3:15PM  | Daily |
| 3101             | 8:15AM    | 8:45AM  | Daily     | 1210 | 4:00PM  | 4:15PM  | Daily |
| 3102             | 1:45PM    | 2:15PM  | Daily     | 1211 | 5:00PM  | 5:15PM  | Daily |
| 3103             | 4:45PM    | 5:15PM  | Daily     | 1212 | 6:00PM  | 6:15PM  | Daily |
| ROTA TO GUAM     |           |         |           |      |         |         |       |
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |      |         |         |       |
| 3401             | 12:15PM   | 12:45PM | Daily     |      |         |         |       |
| GUAM TO ROTA     |           |         |           |      |         |         |       |
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |      |         |         |       |
| 4301             | 1:00PM    | 1:30PM  | Daily     |      |         |         |       |
| SAIPAN TO TINIAN |           |         |           |      |         |         |       |
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |      |         |         |       |
| 1201             | 7:00AM    | 7:15AM  | Daily     |      |         |         |       |
| 1202             | 8:00AM    | 8:15AM  | Daily     |      |         |         |       |



## IN HILLBROOM LAWSUIT

# Lujan objects having Kennedy as settlement judge

Guam lawyer David J. Lujan does not want U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy to serve as a settlement judge in Junior Larry Hillbroom's lawsuit against him and Vietnam-based lawyer Barry J. Israel.

Lujan informed the District Court last week about his objection to Kennedy sitting as the settlement judge in Hillbroom's lawsuit.

Lujan, who is representing

himself in the case, did not cite any reason for his objection.

The trial in this case will be on Nov. 19, 2019. A settlement conference is usually done to resolve a case through a non-trial disposition.

Last month, Kennedy ordered Lujan to pay \$20,921 in costs and fees to his former client, Hillbroom, for his behavior during his deposition in Guam.

Kennedy said if Lujan had not walked out of his deposition,

Hillbroom would have been able to complete the deposition and paid the corresponding costs to do so.

Deposition refers to the taking testimony of a witness outside of court. Deposition was held in connection with Hillbroom's lawsuit against his former counsel, Lujan and Israel.

According to court records, on May 14, 2019, Lujan walked out of the second day of his scheduled three-day deposition in Guam.

That same day, Hillbroom filed a motion to compel Lujan to resume his deposition and pay sanctions.

At the May 24 motion hearing, Kennedy granted the motion to compel and rescheduled the remaining two days of Lujan's deposition at the U.S. District Court on Saipan.

The court also granted Hillbroom's motion for attorneys' fees and costs for the filing of the motion to compel and or-

dered Hillbroom to submit a more detailed accounting of deposition costs for sanctions.

Hillbroom is suing Lujan and Israel for allegedly conspiring with former trustee Keith Waibel to inflate their contingency fee when the fortune of the late DHL co-founder Larry Hillblom was still undergoing proceedings in the Superior Court.

Lujan and Israel denied the allegations.

Hillbroom is one of the four DNA-proven children of Hillblom. His name is spelled differently from that of Hillblom.

Hillblom died in a seaplane crash off Anatahan waters on a flight from Pagan Island to Saipan on May 21, 1995, leaving behind an estate worth approximately \$550 million. The bodies of the pilot and a business partner were found, but Hillblom's body was never recovered. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## MyPros honors Jiang Zheng Group Inc.



BEA CABRERA

JZ Group Inc. general counsel Jordan Sundell and owner Eric Guo receive an award from Marianas Young Professionals for their support to public high school students at MyPros appreciation night for JZ Group Inc. last Friday at Marianas Creations in Garapan.

By **BEA CABRERA**  
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Marianas Young Professionals, a non-profit organization that helps promote young professionals in the CNM, recognized the initiatives of Jiang Zheng Group Inc. by giving them a plaque of appreciation for investing in the skills and talents of public school high school students.

The awarding was held last

Friday at Marianas Creations in Garapan.

JZ Group, which owns real estate company Joint Marketing Inc., recently sponsored an educational initiative called "Open Reef Innovations" where many students participated to learn about virtual and augmented reality technologies.

The students made an application using these technologies for commercial applications for JZ Group. The application

helps JZ Group clients to see and experience the properties that are for sale on island in a computer-simulated environment and allows the user to interact with real world objects that are enhanced in the simulated environment.

"Many of our young people got to participate as this is a cultural and technology educational experience where we could teach young people to 3D design latte stones, to pho-

tograph in 360 degrees and to learn more about technology to preserve their language, arts and culture," said MyPros executive director Gerard Van Gils.

"These kids learned technology and they built a real estate marketing application for JZ Group. This is actually the first VR/AR app created in the CNMI and it was done by public high school students," he added.

Van Gils said this sponsorship was a bold initiative on the part of JZ Group as many companies would not see a direct connection between investing in the education of young people and the building of their business.

"This goes to show that if you want a strong business in our community, we should invest in the young people which is the future of our community."

Jordan Sundell, general counsel at JZ Group who received the plaque with JZ Group owner Eric Guo, said

that they are excited for more projects with students in the future. "We are very excited about it and this (plaque) is a nice sentimental gift as we are happy to be supporting the youth and the educational system."

"It is well needed here in the CNMI and we are supportive of the students' future. We are excited to give them the opportunity to try some stuff that is hard to get here but common in the mainland," he added.

Sundell said that the company has been using the app with tourists interested in buying property. "But where the app is especially useful is because it allows our company to show off Saipan and its real estate without people traveling here."

"The VR apps will be an important tool for the real-estate industry and we are excited to introduce that tool here and look forward to seeing the kind of apps the students will produce as they become more experienced," he added.



BEA CABRERA

From left, MyPros executive director Gerard Van Gils, board emeritus Jacqueline Cue, and board director Bobby Cruz at the MyPros appreciation night for JZ Group Inc. last Friday at Marianas Creations in Garapan.

## 5 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged three Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites Inos Peace

Park, American Memorial Park Drainage, Garapan Fishing Dock, Smiling Cove Marina, and Imperial Pacific.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the

CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. *(DEQ)*

## Tepungan Beach Park restrooms temporarily closed

The Department of Parks and Recreation's Tepungan Beach Park (Fish Eye) restrooms will be

temporarily closed effective today, Sept. 25, 2019, due to repairs. Any questions or concerns,

please contact Department of Parks and Recreation's office at 475-6288. *(PR)*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

### NEW PARTNER

The Airstream is now a proud NMC ProaPerks partner. All card-carrying members of the ProaPerks program can avail of a 10% discount on all food and non-alcoholic beverage items.



# CORAL REEF INITIATIVE

DIVISION OF COASTAL  
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

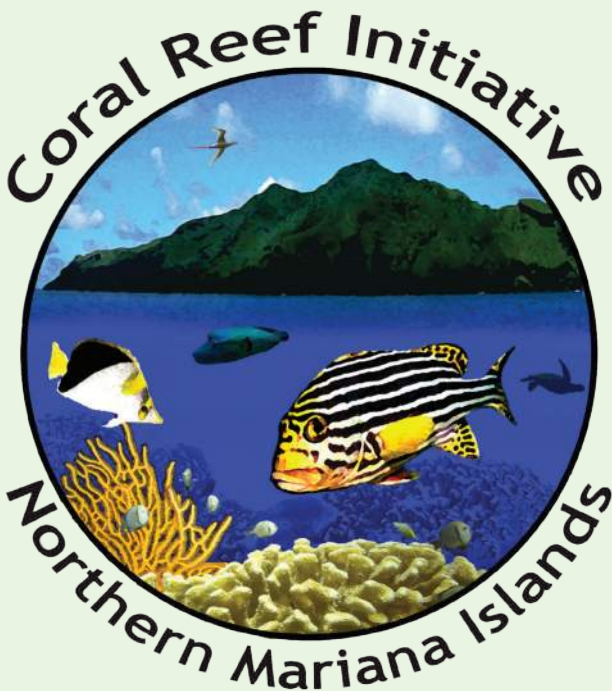
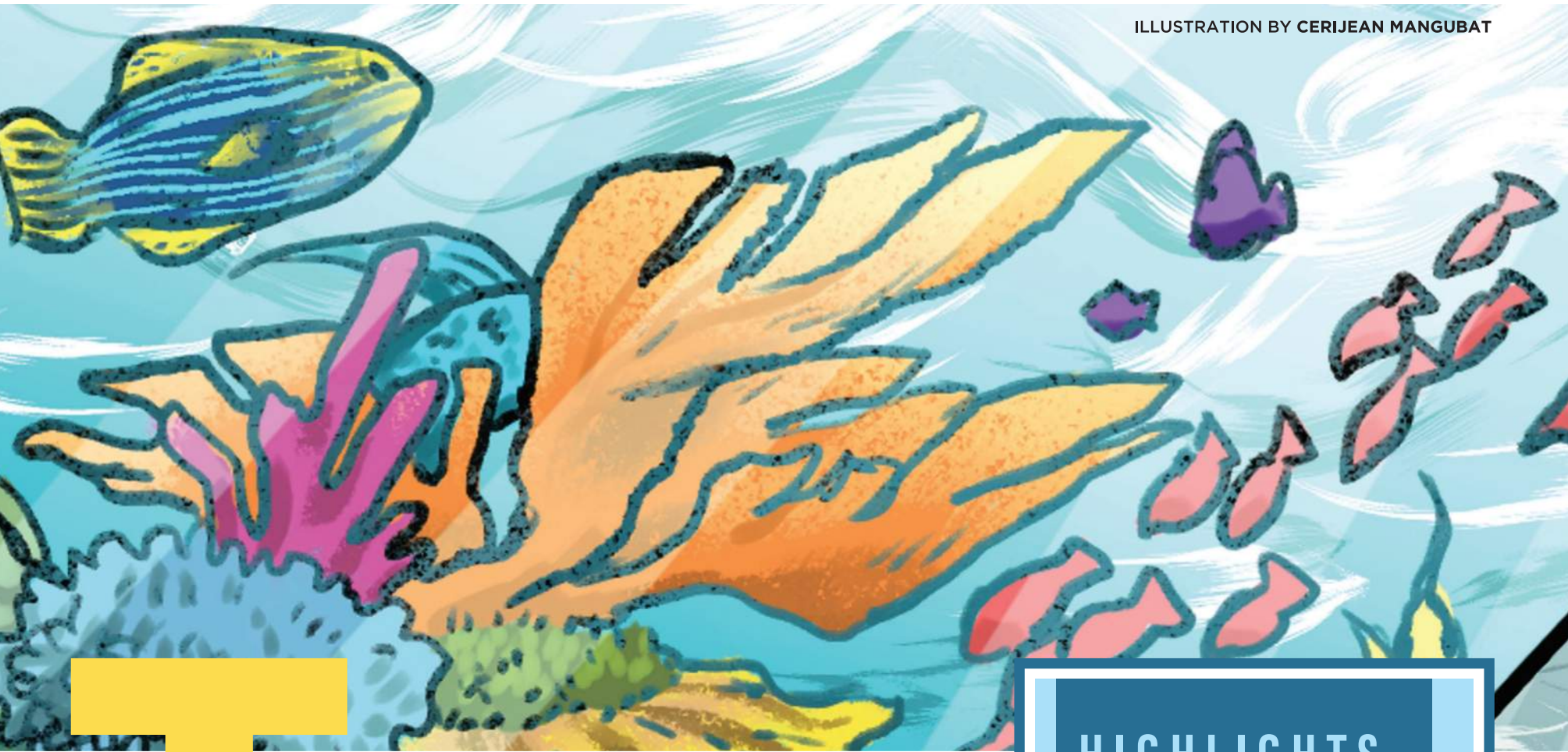


ILLUSTRATION BY CERIJEAN MANGUBAT



**T**he **CNMI Coral Reef Initiative (CRI)** was founded in 2003 in partnership with NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program. The CRI is a cross-agency initiative between the Division of Coastal Resources Management, the Division of Environmental Quality, and the Division of Fish and Wildlife. These agencies work together to protect and preserve CNMI's coral reef ecosystems and ensure responsible management of these resources. This work is achieved through biological monitoring, habitat restoration, research, enforcement, and education and outreach.

## HIGHLIGHTS



DCRM  
SUMMER  
INTERNSHIP



ACTIVITIES



PROJECTS



# 2019 DCRM SUMMER INTERNSHIP



“

Science, and more importantly the ocean, were always an interest. But, my internship integrated the two into a career choice, of which I have no regrets.”

— *Dave Benavente,*  
(2002 CRI Summer Intern)  
Lead Marine Biologist, DCRM  
M.S. in Marine Biology,  
University of Guam

S

Since 2002 the DCRM Summer Internship Program, formerly known as the Coral Reef Summer Internship, has worked to raise student awareness of coral reef issues, threats, and the efforts underway to protect them. Participants are provided with opportunities to gain hands-on experience in resource management as well as outreach and are encouraged to pursue an education and career in an aspect of coral reef resource management. Though coordinated by the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) Office, interns are also paired with partner agencies such as the Division of Fish and Wildlife, and local coral reef focused NGOs.

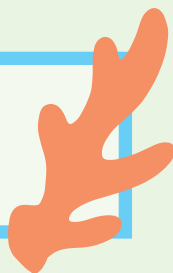








# ACTIVITIES



## SEAGRASS MONITORING



Summer interns had the opportunity to learn and explore the different seagrass species and appreciate their role as home to young marine life and water filter of coral. Seagrass habitats are important for protecting our coastal resources and our coastal livelihoods. They are facing global and regional decline yet there is a need to monitor and study their cover and health. The Marine Monitoring team collect important quantifiable and spatial data on local discrete seagrass beds so that they can learn more about their dispersion and health. In taking action, like reducing runoff pollution and mitigating climate change, we can conserve our seagrasses and coral reefs for a lively ocean.



## BRING BACK OUR TREES



Part of the Summer internship includes introducing interns to local conservation initiatives like MINA's Bring Back Our Trees Campaign. This campaign aims to support the growth and re-growth of native plants and trees. This event will also encourage climate change resiliency, help prevent sedimentation, and further degradation of the reefs. The tree saplings are provided by CNMI Forestry, MINA's goal is to plant 100 to 200 trees in two years, and will focus is on areas that lost the largest number of trees during Super Typhoon Yutu in 2018 and Typhoon Soudelor in 2015.

## EYES OF THE REEF



Summer Interns monitored visitor use and impacts at the Managaha Marine Conservation Area. Interns also participated in Eyes of the Reef



Marianas training where they learned how to identify reef impacts, such as coral bleaching and crown of thorns sea star outbreaks. Early detection is important as we can monitor changes from potentially widespread events, help local response team prioritize

immediate actions and sites, gives higher chance of recovery for affected coral reefs, and a good way to track reef resilience! The Eyes of the Reef program is open to all ocean users. Visit [eormarianas.org](http://eormarianas.org) to report any reef impacts!

## BE THE SOLUTION TO OCEAN POLLUTION



## MARINE DEBRIS CLEANUP



DCRM Summer Interns at Jeffrey's Beach. NOAA Coastal Fellow, Kelsey McClellan, alongside members of DCRM's Planning Section, led a field activity to Jeffrey's Beach, where interns removed marine debris and learned about the ongoing efforts to address the increasingly common problem of driving on the beach and it's harmful impacts on the marine and coastal environment.







# PROJECTS

Based on their academic and career interests, interns were placed in different programs, including Water Quality/Non-point Source Pollution, Coastal Planning, Marine Monitoring Team, Permitting, Enforcement, DCRM Communications, MINA's Bring Back our Trees Campaign, DFW Fisheries and DLNR's Sea Turtle Program. The interns worked on special projects under the guidance of their respective mentors and at the end of the 10 weeks presented on their work.



**NATALIE MONTANO,**  
DEQ ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEILLANCE  
LABORATORY



**NEILDINO TAISACAN,**  
CORAL REEF INITIATIVE  
DEQ WATER QUALITY MONITORING



**SHANNON SASAMOTO**  
COASTAL ZONE COMMUNICATIONS



**PETER SANTOS**  
DLNR SEA TURTLE PROGRAM



**LORIANN JOHN**  
SHORELINE MONITORING



**ESTHER HUH**  
BRING BACK OUR TREES CAMPAIGN



**ALDEBERT DELEON GUERRERO**  
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS



**ANELA DUENAS**  
LONG-TERM MARINE  
MONITORING PROGRAM



**DIANNE PABLO**  
USER CAPACITY ASSESSMENT  
OF PRIME TOURIST SITES



**CERIJEAN MANGUBAT**  
DCRM PERMITTING



**LAURINA SEBAKLIM**  
DFW FISHERIES



**LANCE TUDELA**  
DCRM ENFORCEMENT





# Business

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out the entire Commonwealth. I want to see our local and small businesses grow and expanding our products to the international market is possible. I strongly encourage our community to learn more about how their business can grow and use these available resources to make it happen," Torres said.

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To schedule a one-on-one consultation with Fred Granillo, or for more information about the CNMI STEP program, contact the CNMI Department of Commerce at: (670) 664-3065 ext. 125 or email your request to: [cnmi.step@commerce.gov.mp](mailto:cnmi.step@commerce.gov.mp). (PR)

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Brought down by a variety of factors, including crushing debts and online competition, the 178-year-old travel agency that helped pioneer the package tour ceased operating in the middle of the night. Its four airlines stopped carrying customers, and its 21,000 employees in 16 countries lost their jobs.

The company's failure rippled across the tourism industry, particularly around the Mediterranean, with travelers uncertain how they would get home, hotels worried they wouldn't get paid, guests afraid they wouldn't be allowed to check out without settling their bills, and resorts hit with cancellations.

Overall, about 600,000 people were traveling with Thomas Cook as of Sunday, though it was unclear how many would be left stranded, as some regional subsidiaries were in talks with local authorities to continue operating.

The British government swung into action, lining up flights to bring an estimated 150,000 Britain-based customers back home from vacation spots around the globe in what was called the biggest peacetime repatriation effort in the country's history.

Some 50,000 Thomas Cook travelers were reported stranded in Greece, up to 30,000 in Spain's Canary Islands, 21,000 in Turkey and 15,000 in Cyprus. Travelers lined up at airports, looking for other ways to get home.

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"Kim was crying this morning. We're devastated," he said.

Long lines of British tourists snaked through the terminal in the Mexican resort of Cancun as travelers waited to find out when they could return home, and some discovered they would be taken to cities hours from their homes.

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Others took the news in stride. Sweden's Bengt Olsson, who was traveling in Cyprus, said there were worse places to be stranded: "It's nice to stay here. It's warm."

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# Nation

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At issue is a summer phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, in which Trump is said to have pushed for investigations into Biden. In the days before that call, Trump ordered the aid to Ukraine frozen.

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President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting with Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan at the InterContinental Barclay hotel during the United Nations General Assembly, Monday, Sept. 23, 2019, in New York.

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"These allegations are stunning, both in the national security threat they pose and the potential corruption they represent," wrote the seven freshmen, who include a former Navy pilot, soldiers, officers and intelligence analysts.

"We do not arrive at this conclusion lightly," the lawmakers wrote in a Washington Post op-ed. The lawmakers include Reps. Gil Cisneros of California, Jason Crow of Colorado, Chrissy Houlahan of Pennsylvania, Elaine Luria of Virginia, Mikie Sherrill of New Jersey, Elissa Slotkin of Michigan and Abigail Spanberger of Virginia.

"These new allegations are a threat to all we have sworn to protect. We must preserve the checks and balances envisioned by the Founders and restore the trust of the American people in our government. And that is what we intend to do."

## California utility cuts power to 24K customers

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The power will remain off until conditions are safer, and PG&E warned that it might expand the precautionary outages on Tuesday to El Dorado, Placer, Sutter, Lake, Napa and Sonoma counties if gusty winds and hot, dry weather continue.

Butte County is where a wildfire blamed on PG&E transmission lines killed 86 people last year and virtually leveled the town of Paradise.

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up," Kurth said. "The main threat is overnight when the winds pick up in the mountains and foothills."

Some of the most destructive blazes in the state in the past two years were started by PG&E power lines. Winds can knock down live wires and power poles or drive trees and other vegetation into contact with them.

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# Asia

## India says Pakistan has reactivated militant camps

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—India's army chief said Monday that Pakistan has reactivated militant camps in Pakistan-held Kashmir and about 500 militants are waiting to infiltrate into India.

Gen. Bipin Rawat didn't provide any evidence to back his claims.

Senior officials at Pakistan's foreign ministry denied the accusation. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

They said India's government and military were "using false propaganda to implicate Pakistan for the domestic backlash to Indian repression in Indian-administered Kashmir." India has placed a curfew and other restrictions on people in its part of Kashmir since downgrading the special status of the disputed Himalayan region on Aug. 5.

The Press Trust of India news agency quoted the army chief as saying that "some action had been taken" by India's air force "and now they (Pakistan) have got the people back there."

Rawat was referring to an airstrike carried out by the air force on Feb. 26 that India claimed hit a militant camp in a heavily forested hilltop in Balakot, an area about 10 kilometers (6 miles) inside Pakistani territory. It said the camp hosted members of a militant group responsible for a suicide car bombing in Kashmir that killed 40 Indian paramilitary soldiers.

Pakistan had denied the strike was carried out from its soil. It also said no such camps were hit or operated in the area.

The next day, Pakistan's air force shot down an Indian fighter jet during an aerial confrontation and took an Indian pilot prisoner. He was later released.

Rawat indicated that India's response now may be stronger than it was in February.

"Why repeat? Why not beyond that? Let them keep guessing," Indian news channels quoted him as saying.

Meanwhile, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan has called for the lifting of the curfew in Kashmir, saying he will continue to high-

light the Kashmir issue at every forum and will fulfill his promise of being the "ambassador of Kashmir."

The two leaders of the nuclear-armed rivals are due to face each other during the upcoming meeting of the U.N. General Assembly amid their worst tensions in years over Kashmir.

The conflict over Kashmir has existed since the late 1940s when India and Pakistan won independence from Britain. The countries have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, and each administers a portion of the region.

1989 saw the start of a full-blown armed rebellion against Indian control for a united Kashmir, either under Pakistan rule or independent. Since then, about 70,000 people have been killed in the conflict, which India sees as a proxy war by Pakistan.

The region is one of the most heavily militarized in the world, patrolled by soldiers and paramilitary police. Most Kashmiris resent the Indian troop presence and support the rebels.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Hong Kong leader hopes town hall will be start of healing

**HONG KONG (AP)**—Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam says she doesn't expect her first town hall dialogue this week to find answers to the months-long pro-democracy protests but hopes it will be a step forward in the "long journey" to reconciliation. Lam says she is encouraged that more than 20,000 people have signed up for Thursday's community dialogue, out of which only 150 will be selected randomly. The Beijing-backed leader is hoping to tone down increasingly violent protests ahead of China's National Day celebrations on Oct. 1. The unrest was sparked by an extradition bill that has now been withdrawn but protesters now demand greater democracy. Lam said Tuesday it would be impossible to reach a consensus but it would be a success if the dialogue is peaceful and candid.

#### 20 killed, 70 hurt in protests in Indonesia's Papua province

**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)**—At least 20 people were killed Monday, including three shot by police, in violent protests by hundreds of people sparked by rumors that a teacher insulted an indigenous student in Indonesia's restive Papua province, officials said.

An angry mob torched local government buildings, shops and homes and set fire to cars and motorbikes on several roads leading to the district chief's office in Wamena city, said Papua police chief Rudolf Alberth Rodja. Papua military spokesman Eko Daryanto said at least 16 civilians, including 13 from other Indonesian provinces, were killed in Wamena, mostly after being trapped in burning houses or shops. He said at least one soldier and three civilians died in another protest in Jayapura, the capital of Papua province.

#### 2 killed in collapse of Manila hotel being demolished

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—At least two workers were killed and another was injured Monday when part of a small budget hotel they were demolishing in Manila collapsed, Philippine officials said. Manila Mayor Francisco Moreno Domagoso helped supervise efforts to locate the two workers with cranes and drones after a portion of Hotel Sogo collapsed for still-unclear reasons. The hotel has long been closed and was being demolished by several workers when the accident happened. A busy road in Manila's Malate tourism and entertainment district was closed due to the rescue efforts. "It's sad but we can't do

anything, everybody tried their best," Moreno told reporters, adding rescuers moved rapidly but carefully due to the building's fragility. Police are investigating the collapse, which Moreno said prompted him to order guests in an adjacent budget motel to leave the building for safety reasons.

#### South Korea confirms 4th swine fever case in a week

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—South Korea's African swine fever crisis intensified Tuesday with lab tests confirming the country's fourth case in a week from a farm near its border with North Korea. It raised fears officials are losing a battle to halt the spread of the disease that wiped out pig populations across Asia. The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs said tests showed the disease caused three miscarriages in pigs at a farm in Paju, a border town where the country's first case was confirmed last week. The ministry's announcement came hours after the country's third case was confirmed Monday night at a farm in Gimpo, which is on the southern side of the river that separates the border region and the metropolitan area surrounding Seoul, triggering concerns the outbreak is spreading toward population centers.

# World

## 'You are failing us'

### » Plans, frustration at UN climate talks

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)**—Scolded for doing little, leader after leader promised the United Nations on Monday to do more to prevent a warming world from reaching even more dangerous levels.

As they made their pledges at the Climate Action Summit, though, they and others conceded it was not enough. And even before they spoke, teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg shamed them over and over for their inaction: "How dare you?"

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres concluded the summit by listing 77 countries that committed to carbon neutrality by 2050, 70 nations pledging to do more to fight climate change, with 100 business leaders promising to join the green economy and one-third of the global banking sector signing up to green goals.

"Action by action, the tide is turning," he said. "But we have a long way to go."

Businesses and charities also got in on the act, at times even going bigger than major nations. Microsoft founder Bill Gates an-



Secretary-General Antonio Guterres addresses the Climate Summit in the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters, Monday, Sept. 23, 2019.

nounced Monday that his foundation, along with The World Bank and some European governments, would provide \$790 million in financial help to 300 million of the world's small farmers adapt to climate change. The Gates foundation pledged \$310 million of that.

"The world can still prevent the absolute worst effects of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and developing new technologies and sources of energy," Gates said. "But the effects of rising temperatures are already under way."

As the day went on Monday and the promises kept coming, the United States seemed out in the cold.

Before world leaders made their promises in

three-minute speeches, the 16-year-old Thunberg gave an emotional appeal in which she scolded the leaders with her repeated phrase, "How dare you."

"This is all wrong. I shouldn't be up here," said Thunberg, who began a lone protest outside the Swedish parliament more than a year ago that culminated in Friday's global climate strikes.

"I should be back in school on the other side of the ocean. Yet you have come to us young people for hope. How dare you. You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words."

"We are in the beginning of a mass extinction and yet all you can talk about is money," Thunberg said. "You are failing us."

## 5 EU nations reach temporary deal on rescued migrants

**VALLETTA, Malta (AP)**—Five European Union nations agreed on Monday to a temporary arrangement for disembarkation and relocation of migrants rescued in the central Mediterranean from human traffickers' unseaworthy boats, with officials pushing for a wider deal involving more EU countries.

During talks in Malta, the interior ministers of France, Germany, Italy, Malta and Finland decided to share among their five countries migrants trying to cross from Libya—the deadliest migration route to Europe—who are pulled out of the sea by rescuers.

The deal will apply for the coming two weeks, until an Oct. 8 meeting of European Union interior ministers, when participants in Monday's talks hope all or many more fellow EU countries will join the arrangement.

For more than a year, hu-

manitarian ships which rescued migrants at sea were blocked by Italy and Malta from docking or disembarking their passengers to those countries. The anti-migrant policies caused repeated forced weeks-long stand-offs until other EU nations stepped forward with pledges to take at least some of the migrants.

It is "crucial that we move away from ship-by-ship arrangements," said Finland's minister, Maria Osihalo.

She added that the limited deal struck Monday aims to ensure that the rescue ships "find a safe harbor without delay, thus avoiding additional hardship for migrants, and ensuring swift relocation of asylum-seekers on a voluntary basis to other member states."

The Oct. 8 EU ministerial meeting in Luxembourg will give Spain and Greece the opportunity to seek solidarity over rescued migrants in the

western and eastern Mediterranean respectively.

Italian Interior Minister Luciana Lamorgese said the exact percentages of rescued migrants each country would agree to take will ultimately depend on how many EU members eventually participate in the system.

But it appeared the five-nation accord would cover all boats rescuing migrants in the central Mediterranean, the route used by Libyan-based traffickers. Sometimes Malta's or Italy's military vessels perform the rescues, and occasionally a fishing or cargo ship plucks survivors from the sea.

Current EU rules say refugees and other asylum-seekers must stay in the country where they arrive while their cases are processed, but most migrants hope to reach northern Europe to find jobs or rejoin family members who have successfully emigrated there.



# Good Housekeeping

By JESSICA DAMIANO  
NEWSDAY

From plastic straw bans to reusable shopping bags and increasing concerns about climate change, toxic chemicals in common household products and the shifting of local and national policies, the environment looks to be having a moment.

I've been trying to avoid single-use plastics for quite awhile. It's harder than I thought, and I can't do it completely. In the kitchen I'm transitioning from plastic wrap and storage bags to reusable ones. In the garden, I've had a compost tumbler for more than a decade, but if I'm being honest, I've fallen a bit off that wagon (I'll get back on). In the bathroom, I've replaced liquid hand soap with old-school bars, and I've switched from plastic strips to



The perennial border in front of garden columnist Jessica Damiano's house thrives throughout summer without any supplemental water. Pictured, Knockout roses, black-eyed Susans, anise hyssop, purple coneflowers, daylilies and lavender.

TNS

## Xeriscaping, companion planting and recycling for an eco-friendly home and garden

bamboo bandages.

Although I'm always here to answer your questions with both traditional, time-tested garden advice as well as the latest scientific findings, my own plants have never seen a synthetic pesticide or herbicide. When they decline beyond the point where cultural or biological means can save them, they meet the executioner. Common sense always prevails, however, and I assure you that if my 14-year-old stand of a dozen, 30-foot-tall evergreens falls prey to a life-threatening insect, I will spray it faster than you can say, "parasites with piercing-sucking mouthparts."

Integrated pest management, or IPM, is the practice of using the most-benign control methods possible as a first defense against weeds and insect pests, beginning with those that cause the least harm to people, property and the environment. These might include crop rotation instead of an ongoing fungicide regimen to address diseases such as anthracnose, or pulling out young weeds by their roots instead of spraying them with chemicals.

Escalating to bigger guns should be carefully consid-

ered, weighing risks and benefits, and if deemed necessary, undertaken only incrementally. If there are too many tomato hornworms to remove manually, for instance, the next attempt to eradicate them should be an application of bT, a natural bacteria that kills them soon after they eat treated leaves. Chemical measures shouldn't be considered unless all other methods have failed and, even then, only if truly necessary. That's usually when my plants learn the hard lesson that their mother's loyalty is fleeting.

Plants also have ways of taking care of one another. Companion planting is a great way to protect them from pests and diseases. The Iroquois knew this when they planted corn, pole beans and squash together. The result was a healthy, abundant crop of each: The corn served as a support on which the beans climbed; the beans soaked up nitrogen from the air and distributed it to the soil, where it fertilized all three plants; and the squash's large, prickly leaves kept the soil covered, cool and free of weeds while providing a physical barrier that discouraged hungry critters. They called this trio "the three sisters."

Plants that produce insect poisons, deterrents or natural fungicides can be used to protect more susceptible plants from infestation and disease. French and African varieties of marigolds (*Tagetes* spp.) produce a chemical that is toxic to nematodes, nonsegmented parasitic eelworms that live in the soil and can damage roots, especially those of vegetable and fruit crops, until they can't deliver water and nutrients to leaves and stems. Interplanting marigolds with tomatoes is an effective way to ward off nematode damage as well as guard against pests repelled by their strong scent. I've done this, and it works.

Similarly, basil repels tomato hornworms and has fungicidal properties; chives protect roses and lettuce from aphids; lavender repels slugs; nasturtiums discourage spider mites and whiteflies, and are said to improve the flavor of tomatoes and squash planted nearby; and onions planted around roses will help protect against black spot.

Have you ever noticed how weeds fill in every bare spot of soil if allowed to sprawl unchecked? If you plant your garden abundantly with perennials, annuals and ground cov-

ers, allowing for mature sizes that will form a dense carpet, leaving no soil exposed, you'll eliminate any opportunity for weeds to move in. If you try this, you'll have to select plants carefully to avoid water-, nutrient- and sunlight-hogs, but that isn't difficult to do. Use plants of different sizes, textures and habits, and be sure to include tall, low-growing and ground-hugging, creeping plants to create a planned garden that mimics nature.

Xeriscaping, the practice of gardening with drought-resistant plants, is a great way to save water — benefiting both the environment and your utility bill. In most cases, plants suitable for xeriscaping also are native to the region. The more local the plant's origin, the better it behaves and more easily it can survive in the climate without outside help — including supplemental watering. That's why native sneezeweed will thrive just fine without a caretaker, while bamboo can't seem to mind its manners and Gerbera daisy is a flat-out diva.

My favorite low-water-use plants include Knockout roses, black-eyed Susans, purple coneflowers, day lilies and catmint. They're a recurring

theme throughout my garden, thriving on benign neglect.

All plants, even those that are native and drought-tolerant, need to be watered during their first growing season, while developing and establishing a mature root system. But after that, with proper garden practices, most of these need only a supplemental drink during extended heat and drought.

Consider using a covered rain barrel to catch water from downspouts. Just one inch of rain collected from a 1,000-square-foot roof will provide 625 gallons of water. Multiply the square footage of your roof by 625 and divide the product by 1,000 to deter-

mine how many gallons you could recycle. To illustrate how far that water will go, an 8-by-4-foot vegetable garden requires roughly 20 gallons of water per week, and a 10-by-10 lawn should get about 62.

### BUYING GUIDE

■ Bee's Wrap is washable and reusable muslin cloth

Bee's Wrap is washable and reusable cotton muslin cloth infused with bee's wax and jojoba oil, which make it waterproof, yet breathable, and allow it to conform and "stick" to containers (and itself) just like plastic wrap; \$6 and up; beeswrap.com.

■ Patch bandages are made of organic, sustainable bamboo.

Patch strips are compostable, organic bamboo bandages available in varieties customized for cuts and scratches, abrasions and grazes (infused with coconut oil), burns and blisters (aloe vera), and bites and splinters (activated charcoal); \$6.99 for a tube of 25; us.patchstrips.com.

■ Soapstandle is a clear plastic pronged gadget that

Any natural soap bar will do, but mine's attached to a SoapStandle (that's a portmanteau for "stand" and "handle"). The small recyclable plastic stand with rounded teeth permanently grips soap and keeps it elevated to eliminate the mushy bar mess that got us onto plastic pump bottles in the first place. It also prolongs the life of the bar and serves as a handle so it doesn't slip out of your hand; \$8.99 for a 2-pack; soapstandle.com.

### MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

We, the family of the late

*Juan Garrido Villagomez*  
(Laffet)

would like to express our deepest gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all of our relatives and friends (near and far). We have been blessed and humbled by many acts of grace, form of prayers, genuine affections, and other numerous acts of kindness...

As difficult as our loss has been on our entire family, we are forever grateful with your compassion, and tireless support bestowed upon us in our time of sorrow and sadness.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase,  
Olomwaay, Salamat Po'  
**Luise Camacho Villagomez,**  
Children and Family





# Life & Style

## Winfrey picks Ta-Nehisi Coates novel for her book club

Ta-Nehisi Coates' first novel, "The Water Dancer," has been a long and eventful journey.

Begun a decade ago, his chronicle of a slave with an extraordinary memory who joins the Underground Railroad is the result of countless drafts, a shift from multiple narrators to a single voice, some needed advice from fellow writers and hundreds of thousands of words discarded. Coates' research ranged from reading interviews with ex-slaves and consulting a 19th-century Farmer's Almanac—books duly pictured on his Instagram account—to his numerous and revelatory visits to former plantations.

And then came that call from Oprah Winfrey.

"I was just as surprised as anybody. I pretty much write for myself and the only people I think about are my wife and my editor," says Coates, whose novel is her latest book club pick. "I was really happy (about the news from Winfrey). But I think the most encouraging part was that she's a reader. It was clear from the conversation that she's a reader. This is not a marketing ploy. There's nothing to be cynical about."

Winfrey announced Monday that she chose "The Water Dancer" to formally begin her new book club partnership with Apple, for which she plans a selection every other month. In October, she will interview Coates before a live audience at Apple Carnegie Library in Washington, D.C., a conversation that will air Nov. 1 on Apple TV Plus, the new streaming service. During a recent telephone interview with The Associated Press, Winfrey became tearful as she described the novel's emotional impact, how it captured the devastation and resilience of those enslaved.

"I have not felt this way about a book since 'Beloved,'" Winfrey said of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel



This combination photo shows author Ta-Nehisi Coates at the The Gordon Parks Foundation Annual Awards Gala in New York on May 22, 2018, left, and Oprah Winfrey at an event to announce new Apple products in Cupertino, Calif. on March 25, 2019. AP

by her friend and literary idol Toni Morrison, who died in August.

The 43-year-old Coates spoke to The Associated Press during a recent afternoon at a SoHo cafe, where he drank strong iced coffee and received the occasional greeting from a friend or fellow customer. He said that he began the novel after completing his first book, the memoir "The Beautiful Struggle," and acting on editor Chris Jackson's suggestion that he try fiction. Jackson told the AP in a recent statement that "The Beautiful Struggle" demonstrated Coates' "ability to dive so deeply and imaginatively into a character's interior life and invent an idiom to tell the story that was more Joyce-ian than journalistic." Coates, who had been reading extensively about the Civil War at the time, wanted to open readers to the "inner lives of enslaved black folks," a "thriller" that would also dramatize

the most profound questions of freedom and identity.

He worked off and on over the next few years on "The Water Dancer," while honing a literary voice—of realism and poetry, outrage and exploration—that Morrison would liken to James Baldwin's. As a national correspondent for The Atlantic, he wrote a highly influential and debated piece on reparations for blacks. He received a Hugo nomination for his contribution to the newly launched Black Panther comics series, "A Nation Under Our Feet." In 2015, he published "Between the World and Me," a letter to his son about being black in the United States that won the National Book Award, topped The New York Times best-seller list and helped confirm his status as one of the country's leading social commentators.

"It wasn't really that difficult," he

said of finding time for his novel. "I really liked writing 'The Water Dancer.' It was like I get to go play again."

Winfrey's original book club was started in 1996. She has since helped turn dozens of books into best-sellers, from novels by William Faulkner to a memoir by Sidney Poitier. For "The Water Dancer" and her upcoming choices, Apple has pledged that for each copy purchased through Apple Books, it will make a contribution to the American Library Association to support local libraries.

Over the past few years, Winfrey's choices haven't had the impact they did when she had her syndicated television program. But her announcement of "The Water Dancer" had some of the old magic: By Monday night, the novel was No. 1 on the Apple bookstore and Amazon.com best-seller lists.

Winfrey said she was wary at

first of "The Water Dancer," if only because she found Coates such a "beautiful essayist" and wondered if he could move beyond the factual world. Journalists from George Orwell to Tom Wolfe have found success as novelists, but the switch from nonfiction to fiction can frustrate the most gifted writer. Nonfiction doesn't only require adherence to the truth, but a kind of control over the narrative that the fiction writer has to surrender, at least in part. Novelists often speak of their stories becoming so real to them that a given character might lead them in a direction they hadn't otherwise intended. Coates felt that with the protagonist of "The Water Dancer," Hiram Walker, who did not start out at the center of the story, or even with the name Hiram.

"I really liked his story, and I said, 'This is it,'" Coates explained.

While working on the book, Coates showed early drafts to peers such as novelist Michael Chabon, who suggested he "paint the whole scene," Coates recalls, tell everything from how the sunlight looks in the trees to the smell of the air. "The Water Dancer" combines the most everyday details and the freest stretches of imagination, from the supernatural quality of Hiram's mind to his encounters with historical figures such as the abolitionist Harriet Tubman. Coates' favorite authors include E.L. Doctorow, known for mixing real and fictional people in such historical novels as "Ragtime," and Morrison.

"She just had this mastery of the sentence," Coates said of the late Nobel laureate. "She had a beautiful economy of words. I don't that mean that in the sense that she was a sparse writer; she filled every sentence with so much emotion and feeling and information—visceral information, literary information. She wrote the way poets write. I took that from her early on."

## Hillary Rodham Clinton among readers at Mary Oliver tribute

NEW YORK (AP)—The words were by Mary Oliver, the emotions were Hillary Rodham Clinton's and others who came to pay tribute.

The former secretary of state and presidential candidate was among the readers Monday night honoring the beloved, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, who died in January at age 83. Speaking before hundreds at Manhattan's 92nd Street Y, Clinton and such friends of Oliver as Maria Shriver and John Waters all praised the poet's non-conforming spirit and profound bond with the natural world. They told stories and joked over who would get to read which poem, choosing from "The Journey," "Don't Hesitate" and other Oliver favorites.

Only a recording of Oliver herself reading her classic "Wild Geese" received the kind of applause—a soaring standing ovation—that Clinton did on Monday. After explaining



In this photo taken on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2019, former US Secretary of State and 2016 Democratic Presidential candidate, Hillary Rodham Clinton, visits an art exhibition by American artist Kenneth Goldsmith dedicated to her emails, in Venice, Italy. AP

that she learned of Oliver through her late mother, Clinton read three poems, among them "I Worried," which she called "especially suited for the times in which we live." Lines from Oliver's work seemed to echo Clinton's life. "Don't Hesitate," and its urging that "If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate/ Give in to it," read like an affirmation of Clinton's famed 1969 student commencement speech at Wellesley College, when she celebrated the quest for "more immediate, ecstatic, and penetrating modes of living."

Oliver's "When Death Comes" might have been words Clinton took to heart after her loss in 2016 to Donald Trump: "I don't want to find myself sighing and frightened/or full of argument/I don't want to end up simply having visited this world."

The night wasn't all about poetry. Poet Coleman Barks led the audience in a sing-along of the coun-

try standard "Hey Good Lookin,'" which he would sing to Oliver in her final days. Filmmaker John Waters, who knew Oliver for more than 50 years, remembered his friend as a drinker and smoker and all-around troublemaker. He also confided—sacrilege to fans of Oliver and her work—that he didn't care for the poet's dog.

Shriver called Oliver an inspiration who "turned her inside out" and "gently" gave her the power to hold her own ground. She recalled the years of being rejected by Oliver when she tried to invite her to a women's conference in California, during the time Shriver was married to the state's governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and how Oliver finally accepted and mesmerized the audience.

"It was a friendship, Shriver said, that "began in rejection and ended in total acceptance, total love."

## Sid Haig, who acted in 'House of 1000 Corpses,' dies at 80

NEW YORK (AP)—Sid Haig, the bearded character actor best known as Captain Spaulding in the "House of 1000 Corpses" trilogy, has died.

Haig representative Kathleen Schultz tells The Associated Press that he died Saturday after a recent fall in his home. He was 80.

"House of 1000 Corpses" director Rob Zombie posted a picture on Instagram of Haig in full character. "Hooray for Captain Spaulding. Gone but not forgotten," Zombie wrote on Monday. Haig had appeared recently as Spaulding in Zombie's "3 from Hell."

The actor's other credits ranged from George Lucas' "THX 1138" to the Quentin Tarantino movies "Jackie Brown" and "Kill Bill, Vol. 2." He also appeared in the 1970s blaxploitation classic "Foxy Brown."

The Fresno, California, native played drums for the 1950s group the T-Birds before working in film.



# Emmy Awards viewership plunges to 6.9 million people

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The Emmy Awards plunged to a record-low viewership of 6.9 million, illustrating a collective shrug by the public for an annual program that celebrates the best of television and is designed to build excitement for a new season.

The Nielsen company said the audience for Fox's host-less show on Sunday was down 32% from 2018, which was previously the smallest ever. It's the first time the Emmy audience has slipped below 10 million people.

Competition from an NFL game between the Los Angeles Rams and Cleveland Browns was blamed for siphoning off some viewers. More likely, it was because of how television has changed and is less and less of a communal experience.

"The Emmys used to matter because it was all the TV you watched, pitted against each other," tweeted Myles

McNutt, a cultural critic and professor at Old Dominion University. "But now, the Emmys are more likely a place where shows regular people had no idea existed compete with shows they have a vague understanding of."

Television's most popular scripted show, CBS' now-retired "The Big Bang Theory," wasn't nominated for best comedy. Amazon's "Fleabag" won that Emmy. It's not clear how many people have even seen the streamed series.

Of the 132 Emmy Awards handed out this year, only 18 went for work on broadcast networks. Except for two awards for NBC's "Saturday Night Live," broadcast programs were shut out of Sunday's telecast.

It wasn't that long ago, back in 2013, that 17.8 million people watched the Emmy Awards, Nielsen said. The largest Emmy audience in Nielsen's record book was



**AP**  
The cast and crew of "Game Of Thrones" accepts the award for outstanding drama series at the 71st Primetime Emmy Awards on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

quickly on social media, further diminishing the incentive to tune in. HBO's "Game of Thrones" was the biggest winner with 12 Emmys this year, while the HBO limited series "Chernobyl" won 10.

The awards are shown in late September primarily to generate excitement for the broadcast networks' new season, which begins this week. ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox rotate as the host network.

## Emmys apologizes for wrong photo during memoriam segment

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The TV Academy is apologizing for using a photo of a living composer instead of the image of the late Andre Previn during an Emmy's memoriam segment.

The segment on Sunday used a photo of 75-year-old conductor Leonard Slatkin.

The academy, FOX and Emmy producers say in a statement issued Monday that it was an "error."

Previn died at 89 in February. He was a composer, pianist and conductor whose work ventured into Hollywood, jazz and classical music. Previn won four Oscars for his orchestrations of such stylish musicals as 1964's "My Fair Lady."



**AP**  
Halsey performs during an in memoriam tribute at the 71st Primetime Emmy Awards on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

Slatkin posted a picture on Twitter of Previn saying he "served better."

the 35.8 million people who watched in 1986.

For people who want to follow the awards casually while watching something else, news about winners spreads

## Judges may not be buying that 'Stairway' needs new trial

A group of federal judges aren't sure all that glitters is gold, and they don't seem to be buying that a new trial is necessary in the copyright fight over the Led Zeppelin song, "Stairway to Heaven."

Members of an 11-judge panel at a Monday hearing before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco harshly and consistently challenged a plaintiffs' attorney who argued that a new trial is justified and that jurors should be allowed to hear the record-

ed versions of the songs in the lawsuit that alleged 1971's megahit "Stairway" was stolen from 1968's "Taurus," by Spirit.

The estate of the late Randy Wolfe of Spirit sued and lost at a 2016 trial that included testimony from Led Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page and singer Robert Plant, but a three-judge 9th Circuit panel earlier this year ordered a new trial and Led Zeppelin appealed to the larger group of judges.

The verdict was thrown out

over what that the three judges unanimously said were poor instructions that should have allowed jurors to consider that combinations of simple elements in "Taurus" could be original and protected.

But most of Monday's hearing was spent on plaintiffs' attorney Francis Malofiy's argument that the copyrighted composition of "Taurus" should include the song as performed, not merely as written on paper.

Several judges were skeptical.

## Kanye West attracts thousands to Wyoming for worship service

**BILLINGS, Mont. (AP)**—Kanye West has held an outdoor worship service that attracted thousands of people to the Wyoming city where he owns a ranch.

The Billings Gazette reports West held the free event Sunday on the grounds of The Buffalo Bill Center of the

West in Cody.

The center estimates 3,800 people attended the hour-long "Sunday Service" in the Robbie Powwow Garden.

An official says the center was contacted about renting the facility only two days earlier.

West performed with a

choir of 80 singers flown from California to Wyoming Sunday morning.

The music included 14 choir pieces focused on worship and nontraditional hymns, as well as reworked versions of songs by No Doubt and Nirvana.

West recently purchased a ranch property south of Cody.

## Transgender woman strives to preserve marriage to wife

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a transgender female who is working on my marriage to my wife of 41 years. I started my transition in 2011.

We have had our ups and downs during the course of our marriage. We have two sons and eight beautiful grandchildren. All of them know about my transition to womanhood, and my family also knows. What I need now is some advice to help our marriage. We are strongly committed to working on it.

REAL ME IN OHIO

**DEAR REAL YOU:** Many couples choose to stay together and keep their marriage intact when one partner transitions. You and your wife can find help—and support—at the nearest LGBT center that offers couples counseling. If there isn't one in your community, check the nearest large city to where you live.

You and your wife should also reach out to the Straight Spouse Network, which has been mentioned in my column before. This group was started in 1986 by Amity Pierce Buxton, Ph.D., and its mission is to build bridges of understanding for couples of mixed sexual orientation or gender variance. The contact information is [straightspouse.org](http://straightspouse.org).

**DEAR ABBY:** I have two adult children who are divorced and both live out of state. My son has no children, and my daughter has two who are now adults. I'm close to my son but

have been estranged from my daughter and grandchildren for almost 20 years. (There is no possibility of a reconciliation.)

I have not explained the details about this situation to anyone. My close friends know I have no contact with them and, thankfully, to their credit, they haven't asked. My co-workers, however, want to know about my family. I have tried giving them generic information, such as "they live out of state," but a few keep asking for more details, such as when are they coming to visit, what do they do, etc. Some are being friendly, but a couple of them are busybodies. What can I say to deter them and their questions without being rude?

COMPLICATED IN VIRGINIA

**DEAR COMPLICATED:** This situation is more common than many people realize, and the best way to stop nosy people from repeatedly asking questions would simply be to say, "We are estranged." Period. If someone is so insensitive as to question you about why, you are free to say you prefer not to discuss it—now or ever.

**DEAR ABBY:** What would you say about a married man who cultivates online friendships with young women? He is in contact with one of them every hour, calling or texting. Mostly it is innocent, but there are very warm texts that include "kisses" icons ("just pictures, nothing more!").

He does not hide this from his wife. He tells her he is en-

## DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*



joying very much the communication with a young, beautiful woman. He says it is just a game for him, he has no feelings for them, he loves his wife and only her (and she feels it strongly). Do you think this kind of communication is acceptable?

TRIVIAL FLIRT IN RUSSIA

**DEAR TRIVIAL FLIRT:** I don't think so. The husband may not be cheating on his wife in the classic sense, but calling and texting is not only disrespectful to the wife he says he loves, but also to the young women who may not understand that it's "just a game."

*To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.*



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

PHOOEY. MOM AND DAD LEFT. NOW WE'RE HERE ALONE WITH THE BABY SITTER FROM THE BLACK LAGOON.

HEE HEE! DO YOU THINK SHE REMEMBERS HOW LAST TIME WE THREATENED TO FLUSH HER SCIENCE NOTES DOWN THE TOILET?

HA HA HA! OUR FINEST MOMENT.

OK, YOU, GET IN BED.

WHAT? IT'S NOT EVEN 6:30!

SHE REMEMBERS, ALL RIGHT. SHE CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS. WE'LL CALL THE RESCUE SQUAD.

9-25 WHEE!

Garfield®

"DEAR ASK A DOG, WHAT SHOULD I FEED MY DOG TO MAKE HIM SMARTER?"

I'LL TAKE THIS ONE, ODIE

CAT FOOD

9-25

Adam@home

OH, MAN! LOOK AT ALL THESE TACOS.

THE "DRUNKEN HIPSTER." THE "CHORIZO-NATOR." THE "SPICY COWGIRL." IT GOES ON AND ON!

SO MANY CHOICES. DECISIONS. DECISIONS. HOW WILL I EVER DECIDE?

I HAVE OTHER TABLES, SIR.

DOES THE "OVERPOWERING INFERNO" REALLY COME WITH A SIDE OF TUMS?

9-25

The Duplex

NOW, A SQUIRREL JUST FLOW OFF A SCOOBY-TRAPPED BIRD FEEDER AND LANDED IN AN OPEN TRASH CAN.

HA HA HA, HA HA HA! IT WORKED!

I MEAN, I WONDER WHO DID THAT?

9-25

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Level

5 Passing craze

8 Tosses in

12 Regarding

13 Water (Fr.)

14 Harvest

15 What possums do when threatened

17 Roof overhang

18 Leafy lunch

19 Smoothed, as wood

21 Fallon predecessor

24 Chum

25 Misfortunes

28 Calendar entry (Abbr.)

30 Feed-bag bit

33 Carnival city

34 Begets

35 —

36 PC key

37 Regrettably

DOWN

1 Faucets

2 Madonna's "La — Bonita"

3 And others (Lat.)

4 Kansas City team

5 Service charge

6 Motorist's org.

7 Clothing

8 Sports venue

9 Impasse

10 Humorist Barry

11 Raced

16 JFK's predecessor

20 Rental units (Abbr.)

22 Hammer target

23 Media mogul

25 Hot temper

26 Fleur-de- —

27 Security precaution

29 Cuban money

31 Verb for you

32 AAA job

34 Wise one

38 Oozed

40 Rims

42 Run after K

43 Scoffing laughs

44 Nuptial vows

45 Minn. neighbor

47 Sculpture medium

48 Sherlock's assignment

49 Pro votes

52 Lab eggs

53 Path

Solution time: 23 mins.

BEAD ARE CPAS  
ANNE CON ALBA  
HEDGEGOG RUBY  
RTE ADAGES  
SOTES TOIE  
TREE CR MEDOD  
EEE LOINS ERA  
POLLIWOG PLAN  
EBS BRING  
GOATLE WOO  
EDIT LEAPFROG  
TIDE LEX IOWA  
SEER SLY TINY

Yesterday's answer 9-25

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Catharine Zeta-Jones, 50; Will Smith, 51; Michael Douglas, 75; Barbara Walters, 90.

Happy Birthday: Make changes that please you this year. Look on the bright side of whatever situation you face. Having a good attitude will go a long way and help you discover what it is you want out of life. Let go of things you no longer need, and learn to use what you keep more effectively. Live life your way. Your numbers are 6, 13, 21, 24, 33, 39, 46.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): Participate in activities that will challenge you. Learn from every experience, and look at each encounter as a chance to discover something new. Dealing with sensitive issues will help you resolve any obstacle that stands between you and what you want. ★★★★★

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Be careful not to promise something that has too many risk factors. You are best to be clear about what you can and cannot do. Taking one step at a time will help you reach your target. ★★

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Anger is a waste of time. Concentrate on what you can accomplish, and work alongside those who share your mindset. A friendly gesture will open up a window of opportunity with someone special. Romance is encouraged. ★★★★★

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep moving forward until you are satisfied with the results you get. Refuse to let someone meddle in your private business. If someone puts limits on your freedom, it's time to

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Share your thoughts and feelings, and you will be offered a host of ideas that will help you expand your interests. Don't make a change because someone else does. Make a change because it will improve your life. Romance is encouraged. ★★★★★

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take part in something that excites you. Make a difference, and you will feel good about your contribution. A proper connection can be made with someone who will bring out a side of you that is vibrant, unique and ambitious. ★★★★★

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't get into a squabble with someone who is trying to bully or put demands on you. Choose to be around people who encourage you to strive to reach your goals. Love and personal changes can be made. ★★★★★

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may be quick, but before you make a final decision about anything, you should take a timeout and consider the outcome. Rethink what others have said or promised, and make sure you can live without relying on anyone but yourself. ★★

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Do the work yourself; if you count on others, you will be disappointed. An emotional situation will change the way you feel regarding your plans and how you proceed. Love and romance are in the stars and will help ease stress. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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♈ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't get down; get moving. If someone upsets you, find a way to improve your day. The changes you make at home or to the way you live will give you the outlet you need to turn a negative into a positive. ★★★★★

♉ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take care of personal affairs promptly. Refuse to let anyone handle your business for you. Giving someone information that is personal or that should be protected will lead to emotional discord. Be specific about your needs and your expectations. ★★★★★

♊ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Do what's expected of you, and keep moving forward. If someone complains or tries to pressure you into taking on responsibilities that don't belong to you, be ready to counter with suggestions that free you of any additional obligations. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, loving and playful. You are engaging and adventuresome.

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|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    |    | 13 |    |    | 14 |    |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    | 16 |    |    | 17 |    |    |    |
| 18 |    |    |    |    |    | 19 | 20 |    |    |    |
|    |    | 21 |    | 22 | 23 |    | 24 |    |    |    |
| 25 | 26 | 27 |    | 28 |    | 29 |    | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| 33 |    |    | 34 |    |    |    |    | 35 |    |    |
| 36 |    |    | 37 |    |    |    | 38 |    |    |    |
|    | 39 | 40 |    | 41 |    | 42 |    |    |    |    |
| 43 | 44 |    |    | 45 |    | 46 |    | 47 | 48 | 49 |
| 50 |    |    |    | 51 | 52 | 53 |    |    |    |    |
| 54 |    |    |    | 55 |    |    | 56 |    |    |    |
| 57 |    |    |    | 58 |    |    | 59 |    |    |    |

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

|   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | 2 |   |   | 7 |   |  |
| 3 | 1 | 8 | 9 |   |   |  |
|   | 8 |   | 4 |   |   |  |
| 5 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 1 |   |  |
|   |   | 3 |   |   |   |  |
| 6 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 8 |  |
|   | 7 |   |   | 2 |   |  |
|   | 5 |   |   | 3 |   |  |
|   |   | 8 | 4 | 9 |   |  |

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 7 |
| 8 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| 5 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 3 |
| 3 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 2 |
| 1 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 5 |
| 9 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 4 |
| 7 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 |
| 4 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 |

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

WAR ON MOSQUITOES

Solution: 6 letters

P S C U L E X E J K T R E E S  
R A Y H E A T U S C F Y E D N  
N E R M W I R S A U A R I A O  
R R P A B A E V D S R O S P B  
E S A E S I D O A N X T S P R  
H C S S L I O S E I T C O I A  
T O I F H L T T D A I A M N C  
U C A R B S E E I R G F F G T  
O K N T A N G N O C E L E P T  
S T A G N A N T T A R O A U I  
C A T L O M I B N H O S T D S  
A I L B L U E G I L L M H D A  
L L S I Q H E P U R P L E L R  
E Y E S V L S L E N D E R E A  
S M A M M A L P M A W S Y S P

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Algae, Angel, Asian, Birds, Bite, Blood, Bluegill, Carbon, Cocktail, Culex, Dapping, Dioxide, Disease, Eyes, Feathery, Files, Gnat, Heat, Host, Humans, Jurassic, Larva, Mammal, Molt, Mossie, Nets, Olfactory, Parasite, Parasitic, Puddles, Purple, Ratt, Rain, Rash, Repellent, Saliva, Scales, Slender, Southern, Squito, Stagnant, Suck, Swamp, Symbiotic, Tiger, Trees

Yesterday's Answer: Display

Treasures 13 through 18 and 20 through 34 can be purchased online at [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com).



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TWO (2) **Civil Engineering Technician** \$14.18 per hour, plus 1.5 OT Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Read and review project blueprints and structural specifications to determine dimensions of structure or system and material requirements. Draft detailed dimensional drawings and design layouts for projects and to ensure conformance to specifications using Autocad. Prepare reports and document project activities and data. Inspect project site and evaluate contractor work to detect design malfunctions and ensure conformance to design specifications and applicable codes. Develop plans and estimate costs for installation of systems, utilization of facilities, or construction of structures. Perform other related duties as assigned.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**  
Associate Degree in Engineering is required. At least 24 months experience is required

All interested applicants can submit resume at [usafanter.operations@gmail.com](mailto:usafanter.operations@gmail.com) or at our office address PMB 1372 Box 10003 Bayogo Lane, Gualo Rai or contact us at (670)234-5828 from 8:00 am to 5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. For more information the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site – [marianaslabor.net](http://marianaslabor.net)

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(02) **HVAC Specialist** 8.08 to 8.50 per hour, plus 1.5 OT  
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Install, service, or repair heating and air conditioning systems in residences or commercial establishments. Test pipe or tubing joints or connections for leaks, using pressure gauge or soap-and-water solution. Test electrical circuits or components for continuity, using electrical test equipment. Repair or replace defective equipment, components, or wiring. Discuss the heating or cooling system malfunctions with users to isolate problems or to verify that repairs corrected malfunctions. Repair or service heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to improve efficiency, such as by changing filters, cleaning ducts, or refilling non-toxic refrigerants.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**  
• Associate's Graduate;  
• At least 12 months experience;  
• Must have knowledge of machines and tools, including their designs, uses, repair, and maintenance.

All interested applicants can submit resume at [anniep@gppcinc.com](mailto:anniep@gppcinc.com) or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Koshi Kileman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site – [marianaslabor.net](http://marianaslabor.net).

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**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

THREE (3) **Construction Laborer** \$8.09 per hour, plus 1.5 OT Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Perform tasks involving physical labor at construction sites. May operate hand and power tools of all types; air hammers, earth tampers, cement mixers, small mechanical hoists, surveying and measuring equipment and a variety of other equipment and instruments. May clean and prepare sites, dig trenches, set braces to support the sides of excavations, erect scaffolding and clean up rubble, debris and other waste materials. May assist other craft workers and perform related duties as assigned.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**  
High school diploma is required. At least 12 months experience as Construction laborer is required

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(02) **Quality Control Technician** – \$9.02 per hour, plus 1.5 OT  
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Weigh, measure, and check materials, supplies, and equipment for the purpose of keeping relevant records. Duties are primarily clerical by nature. Includes workers who collect and keep record of samples of products or materials. Document quantity, quality, type, weight, test result data, and value of materials or products to maintain shipping, receiving, and production records and files. Weigh or measure materials, equipment, or products to maintain relevant records, using volume meters, scales, rules, or callipers. Collect or prepare measurement, weight, or identification labels and attach them to products. Examine products or materials, parts, subassemblies, and packaging for damage, defects, or shortages, using specification sheets, gauges, and standards charts. Signal or instruct other workers to weigh, move, or check products.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**  
• High School Graduate;  
• At least 12 months experience;  
• Must have knowledge in using measuring tools, such as scales and callipers

All interested applicants can submit resume at [anniep@gppcinc.com](mailto:anniep@gppcinc.com) or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Koshi Kileman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site – [marianaslabor.net](http://marianaslabor.net).

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**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

ONE (1) **Heavy and Tractor Trailer Truck Driver** \$8.11 per hour, plus 1.5 OT Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Drive a tractor-trailer combination or heavy truck. Required to unload truck. Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety and emergency equipment is in good working order. Follow appropriate safety procedures for transporting goods. Inspect loads to ensure that cargo is secure. Secure cargo for transport using ropes, blocks, chain, binders or covers.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**  
At least 1 year experience as Heavy and Tractor Trailer Truck Driver is required

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**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

SIX (6) **Automotive Body & Related Repairers** \$12.54 per hour, plus 1.5 OT Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames. Fit and weld replacement parts into place using wrenches and welding equipment and grind down welds to smooth them using power grinders and other tools. Prime and paint repaired surfaces using paint spray guns and motorized sanders. Perform other related duties as assigned.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**  
High school diploma is required. At least 1 year experience as Automotive Body & Related Repairer is required.

All interested applicants can submit resume at [usafanter.operations@gmail.com](mailto:usafanter.operations@gmail.com) or at our office address PMB 1372 Box 10003 Bayogo Lane, Gualo Rai or contact us at (670)234-5828 from 8:00 am to 5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. For more information the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site – [marianaslabor.net](http://marianaslabor.net)

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**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

THREE (3) **Operating Engineer & Other Construction Equipment Operator** \$9.05 per hour, plus 1.5 OT Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Operate various heavy equipment to move material, grade, excavate, backfill, land clearing or vibrating or breaking rock or concrete. Set up or inspect equipment prior to operation. Perform routine maintenance on equipment such as ensuring proper tire pressure, fill with water, coolant or oil to required levels, lubricate or make adjustments to machinery. Perform other related duties as assigned.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**  
High school diploma is required. At least 12 months experience required.

All interested applicants can submit resume at [usafanter.operations@gmail.com](mailto:usafanter.operations@gmail.com) or at our office address PMB 1372 Box 10003 Bayogo Lane, Gualo Rai or contact us at (670)234-5828 from 8:00 am to 5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. For more information the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site – [marianaslabor.net](http://marianaslabor.net)

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# Goldschmidt hits HR in Arizona return, Cards win



PHOENIX (AP)

— The Arizona Diamondbacks made it obvious they appreciated Paul Goldschmidt in his return to the desert, honoring him with a tribute video before the game and multiple ovations throughout the evening.

Clearly, everyone thought this night was a pretty big deal.

Except for the man being honored. The stoic first baseman still had work to do.

Goldschmidt smacked a two-run homer in his Chase Field reunion, Yadier Molina also had a two-run shot, and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Diamondbacks 9-7 Monday night for their sixth straight win.

“It’s all what you make of it, and for me this was just another game,” Goldschmidt said. “I’m appreciative of all the fans coming out, cheering me on, the standing ovation. But I just didn’t want to make too big a deal of it.”

For Goldschmidt, the real importance of the game was that his team won again.

The Cardinals have a 3 1/2-game lead over the Milwaukee Brewers in the NL Central. St. Louis has five games remaining in the regular season while Milwaukee has six.

Goldschmidt had a big night in his return to Arizona after playing eight years for the Diamondbacks from 2011-18. He got a loud ovation from fans in the first inning before drawing a walk.

## Rays 7, Red Sox 4

In St. Petersburg, Ji-Man Choi, Bran-



St. Louis Cardinals first baseman Paul Goldschmidt makes a catch on a late pickoff throw during the third inning of a baseball game against the Arizona Diamondbacks, Monday, Sept. 23, 2019, in Phoenix.

don Lowe and Willy Adames homered during Tampa Bay’s six-run fourth inning, and the Rays moved into sole possession of the second AL

wild card.

The Rays hold a half-game lead over Cleveland, which had the day off. Boston slugger J.D. Martinez

drove in a run to become the ninth player in franchise history to have at least 35 homers and 100 RBIs in multiple seasons.

## Nationals 7, Phillies 2

In Washington, Patrick Corbin pitched six effective innings, and the Nationals strengthened their playoff positioning.

Adam Eaton, Yan Gomes and Trea Turner homered for Washington, which moved a half-game ahead of idle Milwaukee for the top spot in the wild-card standings. The Nationals reduced their magic number to clinch a playoff berth to three.

## Marlins 8, Mets 4

In New York, Steven Matz allowed two homers to Jorge Alfaro, including a grand slam, and the Mets lost to the Marlins to dim their fading post-season hopes.

Amed Rosario cut into Miami’s big lead with his own slam, but the Mets dropped five games behind idle Milwaukee for the final NL playoff spot with six games remaining. They also trail Washington by 5 1/2 games for the top wild card after the Nationals beat Philadelphia 7-2.

New York (81-75) would be locked out of the postseason with a loss Tuesday and victories by Washington and Milwaukee.

## Blue Jays 11, Orioles 10, 15 innings

In Toronto, Anthony Alford hit a game-ending drive in the 15th inning for his first career homer, sending Toronto to the victory.

Alford connected against rookie right-hander Ryan Eades (0-1), who was trying to close out a third consecutive scoreless inning.

As Major League Baseball’s marathon turns to a sprint, there’s no shortage of significant drama as contenders lean toward the tape.

Be it playoff berths, home field advantage, individual awards and titles, or ensuring gainful employment in 2020, the final six to eight games will hold some significance for almost every club. It will culminate in a soccer-style final Sunday (all games begin around 3 ET/noon PT) that may prove meaningless—or wildly consequential.

This time next week, we could be talking Byzantine tiebreakers, mass firings, or merely gearing up for the annual absurdity of one-game wild card knockouts. Until then? Here’s the most important angles to track:

### Who’s getting in?

A complicated conclusion gained significant clarity over the weekend, as the St. Louis Cardinals’ startling and historic four-game sweep of the Chicago Cubs essentially put every division race to bed.

In the American League, the New York Yankees and Houston Astros have won division titles, while the Minnesota Twins, holding a magic number of three over the

## Closer look at MLB season’s dramatic final week

Cleveland Indians, can clinch the Central by Wednesday. In the National League, the Los Angeles Dodgers and Atlanta Braves are division champs; in the Central, the Cardinals can clinch with a 4-2 week and have a magic number of four to hold off the Milwaukee Brewers.

The Brewers have sufficiently shocked the world by winning 10 of 12 since reigning MVP Christian Yelich suffered a season-ending knee injury. They’re now in a virtual tie with the Washington Nationals for the No. 1 wild card spot.

Both teams face a tricky final week.

The Brew Crew hits the road for the final six games, and in Cincinnati will face unfavorable pitching matchups against Sonny Gray and Luis Castillo before heading to Colorado for the final three.

Splitting their final six games ensures the Brewers a wild-card spot. A 2-4 finish ensures them no worse than a tiebreaker for a wild card spot, and that would require one of the Mets and Cubs to finish 7-0 or 6-0, respectively.

The Nationals? They play a whopping eight games this week, five against the Phillies, and need go just 4-4 to

clinich a playoff berth. Best to take care of business against Philly: Washington hosts Cleveland to finish the season, and the Indians are fighting for their own playoff lives.

Meanwhile, the Indians have pulled even with Tampa Bay at 92-64 for the AL’s No. 2 wild card, with Oakland holding a two-game advantage over both for the No. 1 slot. And the schedule should help the A’s (94-62) lock down a home date for the wild card.

They finish with series at the Angels (70-86) and Mariners (66-90), while the Rays (Yankees, at Blue Jays) and Indians (at White Sox, at Nationals) each play one palooka and one powerhouse.

Should the teams finish in a three-way tie, the Athletics, by virtue of their 9-4 record against the other two clubs, would have the option of two shots to earn a wild card position—the first at home against the Rays, with the Indians facing the loser of that game.

A one-game Indians-Rays tiebreaker for the No. 2 wild card would be held at Tropicana Field, thanks to Tampa Bay’s 6-1 record against Cleveland this year.

With the same group of

super powers returning to the playoffs on a nearly annual basis, the race for home field advantage in each round gains more scrutiny with each passing year.

And in this year of the home run, home cooking seems even more important.

The three most potent teams this year all play significantly better in their own ballparks, led by the Astros, who went 60-21 at Minute Maid Park. The Dodgers were 59-22 at home and 41-34 on the road, while New York won 57 at Yankee Stadium.

At 102-54, the Astros hold a half-game lead on the Yankees (102-55) for best record in baseball, while the Dodgers (100-56) need to win just one game to clinch the best record in the NL.

That would pit the Dodgers against the wild card winner (Washington-Milwaukee, at the moment) in the Division Series, while Atlanta and St. Louis would battle in the other NLDS.

Can longtime Twins fans handle another first-round matchup against the Yankees, who eliminated them in 2003, ’04, ’09, ’10 and in the 2017 wild-card game? Unless the Yanks pass the Astros, that’s

what they’ll get.

### Real home run kings?

The Yankees can usurp the Twins in another fashion: Minnesota broke the 2018 Yankees’ record for most homers by a team earlier this month, but New York has wrested the lead away from them. At 298 homers to the Twins’ 297, the Yankees will try to maintain that lead with games at Tampa Bay and Texas, while the Twins take aim at the grim pitching staffs in Detroit and Kansas City. If MLB ever makes adjustments to the rabbit ball flying out of the yard at record rates this year, this team mark may stand for a while.

Meanwhile, Mets rookie slugger Pete Alonso can perform his own erase job on the Yankees in the record books. He’s slugged 50 home runs, two shy of Aaron Judge’s rookie record of 52, set in the previously juiced-ball season of 2017. Alonso also has a two-homer lead, and a game in hand, on Reds third baseman Eugenio Suarez for the major league lead.

Alonso can also join Ryan Howard (2006), Sammy Sosa (2000), Juan Gonzalez (1993) and Andre Dawson as play-

ers who won the midseason Home Run Derby and finished in at least a tie atop the major league home run list.

### Hiring and firing

Certainly, there could be a bevy of personnel decisions already made that are merely waiting for season’s end to be publicly revealed. The last week could be moot, as the San Diego Padres admitted in firing Andy Green on Saturday. Joe Maddon may not be able to save himself in Chicago.

And as we learned in 2017, when John Farrell, Joe Girardi and Dusty Baker received late-October pink slips, even winning a division title or playoff series guarantees no job security.

But a pratfall or dramatic push this final week could save a job or sever ties, certainly.

Should the Nationals somehow blow their current 98% shot at a wild card slot, it’s hard to imagine Dave Martinez surviving.

Meanwhile, Martinez will match wits for five games with Phillies counterpart Gabe Kapler, whose September record in two seasons is 18-30.

In New York, barring a playoff miracle, Mickey Callaway seems in a no-win situation this week.



# Bears get offense on track, beat Redskins



**LANDOVER, Md. (AP)**—After the Chicago Bears' offense was slow to get going this season, Mitchell Trubisky was excited to speed things up.

Trubisky and the Bears used a no-huddle, hurry-up tempo to snap out of their offensive funk and score 28 first-half points on the way to beating the Washington Redskins 31-15 Monday night. After no passing touchdowns the first two games of the year, Trubisky connected with Taylor Gabriel on three of them in the second quarter alone.

The 2017 second overall pick looked at ease with a fast-paced approach and picked apart Washington's porous defense on 25 of 31 passing for 231 yards. It was the offensive explosion Trubisky predicted would happen this week.

"It just felt like the tempo helped us out a little bit," Trubisky said. "If everyone just continues to stick together and execute our plays and believe and just go out there and make plays, it'll be a fun offense."

Chicago (2-1) had just a 1-yard touchdown run to show for its first two games, and Trubisky entered the night with a completion percentage of 58.3 and ranked near the bottom of the league in yards per attempt. Facing the Redskins (0-3) brought out some of the best in Trubisky.

"Hat's off to him," said Washington linebacker Cole Holcomb, who was roommates with Trubisky at North Carolina. "I always knew he was a good quarterback. He struggled a little bit, but he came out and he played a good game."

Trubisky had 173 yards in the first half alone before throwing an interception at the goal line in the third quarter.

With scores of 1, 3 and 36 yards, Gabriel joined Mike Ditka in 1963 as the only Bears receivers with three TD catches in the first half of a game. Gabriel made six catches for 75 yards before leaving in the second half with a concussion.

The Bears took advantage of five turnovers by Redskins quarterback Case Keenum: two interceptions by Ha Ha Clinton-Dix, including a pick six, another by Kyle Fuller and fumbles forced by Khalil Mack and Danny Trevathan.

"That's all me," said Keenum, who was 30 of 43 for 331 yards and two touchdowns that didn't compensate for the turnovers. "Turn it over that many times as a quarterback, I let my team down. It's all on me. I take complete responsibility. I have to take care of the ball better."



With the offense up to the defense's speed in the first half, Chicago put up 28 points

in two quarters after scoring a total of 19 the past two weeks, 12 of which came on field

goals from Eddy Piñeiro.

Mack had two of the Bears' four sacks to continue a domi-

nant start by the defense that didn't give up a Washington TD until midway through the

## *Pats are dominating on defense, facing injury concerns*

**FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)** — Three games, three victories and three dominant performances by the New England Patriots' defense.

The New York Jets became the latest opponent to fail to score an offensive touchdown against New England on Sunday in the Patriots' 30-14 victory, making New England the first team in the Super Bowl era that hasn't allowed a rushing or passing TD in its first three games.

New York also had just 105 yards. Including the playoffs, that's the fewest yards allowed during Bill Belichick's 347 games as Patriots coach.

Not surprisingly, it's put New England's defense at the top of several key categories.

Entering Monday, the Patriots were allowing an NFL-low 5.7 points per game. They also led the league in total defense (199 yards per game) and were allowing the fewest passing yards (162.3) and rushing yards (36.7) per game.

Those numbers are a bit inflated considering New England's wins are against three teams (Pittsburgh, Miami and New York) that are a combined 0-9 on the season.

Still, the veteran-led group insists there is still plenty of room for improvement.

"We're pushing ourselves," safety Duron Harmon said.

"The good thing about this defense is—obviously we're going to get coached—but we know what we want to do. We know how we want to play. We know what we want the tape to look like."

"And we're pushing each other to do it rather than the coaches pushing us week by week."

A lot of that leadership comes from linebacker Dont'a Hightower, who in his eighth season is tied for third on the team in tackles. He and fellow veteran Jamie Collins (team-high 19 tackles) are also two of the main reasons why teams have had so much trouble running the ball against the Patriots.

That stability could take a hit this week after Hightower left Sunday's win in the fourth quarter with a shoulder injury. That was after defensive lineman Adam Butler left in the third quarter with a leg injury after combining on a sack with Hightower.

Hightower's injury is particularly worrisome considering he was limited to just five games in 2017 before having season-ending shoulder surgery.

### **Big Ben plans 2020 return**

Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger had

surgery to repair his right elbow on Monday.

Team spokesman Burt Lauten said Roethlisberger underwent the procedure at Cedars-Sinai Kerlan Jobe Orthopedic Clinic in Los Angeles. The surgery was performed by Dr. Neal ElAttrache in consultation with team physician Dr. Jim Bradley.

The 37-year-old Roethlisberger left at halftime of a 28-26 loss to Seattle on Sept. 15 after complaining of elbow pain. The team placed him on season-ending injured reserve the following day but has not detailed the exact nature of Roethlisberger's injury.

Roethlisberger will begin rehabilitation when he returns to Pittsburgh and plans to return to the field in 2020. The two-time Super Bowl winner signed a contract extension in the spring that runs through the 2021 season.

The Steelers, with Mason Rudolph taking over at quarterback, dropped to 0-3 with a loss to San Francisco on Sunday.

Meanwhile, Pittsburgh Steelers owner Art Rooney II will chair the NFL's compensation committee, which among other things negotiates the salary of top league executives, including Commissioner Roger Goodell.

Rooney replaces Atlanta

Falcons owner Arthur Blank, who stepped down in May, and will serve for one year.

Also on the compensation group will be Arizona Cardinals President Michael Bidwill, new to the committee; Cleveland Browns owner Jimmy Haslam; New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft; and New York Giants co-owner John Mara. Rooney, Kraft and Mara are among the most influential of the 32 team owners.

Those five owners are selected by their peers. Two years ago, Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones opposed the agreement with Goodell on his salary. Jones is not part of the current committee makeup.

In other news, Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver Nelson Agholor has invited a man who rescued children from a burning house to be his guest at a game after the former firefighter criticized Agholor's catching skills during a television interview.

Hakim Laws said he was walking in the area of a house fire when he jumped into action. According to Laws, he waited outside while another man entered the building to help.

"My man just started throwing babies out. ... And we were catching them, unlike Agholor," Laws said.

**AP**  
Chicago Bears running back David Montgomery (32) is dragged down by Washington Redskins linebacker Cole Holcomb (55) with help from linebacker Jon Bostic (53) during the second half of an NFL football game Monday, Sept. 23, 2019, in Landover, Md.

third quarter. Keenum's two TD passes came long after fans chanted for rookie quarterback Dwayne Haskins and booed the Redskins off the field at halftime.

Washington's defense that wilted in the second half of its first two losses had few answers for Trubisky all game Monday. Eight days after coach Jay Gruden said, "I don't think we have to push the panic button yet," some significant changes could be coming soon.

Before Gruden's job security is really in question, defensive coordinator Greg Manusky looks like the logical target as the first coach to take the fall. Washington's defense ranked in 21st and 17th in the NFL in Manusky's first two seasons in charge and is on pace to finish worse than that this year.

"We've got some talent," Gruden said. "We've just got to coach 'em up better, play better, be more balanced, protect the football. And defensively, stay after it."

The "Let's go Haskins" chants notwithstanding, the Redskins are far more likely to turn to longtime backup Colt McCoy if they make a change at the position. McCoy is working toward being healthy again nine months after breaking his right leg.

When the Redskins signed former New York Giants safety Landon Collins, it effectively spelled the end of their chances of re-signing Clinton-Dix, a trade acquisition last year from Green Bay who played nine games for them. Clinton-Dix made his old team pay with a first quarter interception he returned 37 yards for his first career touchdown.

Clinton-Dix for good measure picked off Keenum in the third quarter and returned it 59 yards.

Piñeiro, who was questionable because of a knee injury suffered while lifting weights, missed a 44-yard field goal attempt in the third quarter and was good from 38 yards in the fourth. "Eddy Money" was 4 of 4 going into the night, including a 53-yard game-winner at Denver in Week 2.

The Redskins lost their eighth consecutive Monday night game, tying for the second-longest streak in league history. They've now lost 17 of their past 18 Monday night home games.



# Rapinoe, Messi take FIFA player of the year awards



**MILAN (AP)—** Lionel Messi won his sixth FIFA player of the year award, while Megan Rapinoe won her first at a lavish ceremony at Milan's iconic Teatro alla Scala on Monday.

Rapinoe was rewarded at the FIFA Best awards for leading the United States to the women's World Cup title in July, as was Jill Ellis who won the women's coach award.

Rapinoe scored six goals in the tournament, earning her the Golden Boot for the tournament's top scorer and the Golden Ball as the top player.

The outspoken star often uses her success as a platform to speak out about issues and the 34-year-old did so again in Milan, pleading for her male and female colleagues to join the likes of Manchester City winger Raheem Sterling in speaking out on racism and other inequalities.

"If we really want to have meaningful change what I think is most inspiring would be if everybody other than Raheem Sterling and (Kalidou) Koulibaly, if they were as outraged about racism as they were, if everybody was as outraged about homophobia as the LGBTQ players, if everybody was as outraged about the lack of equal pay and investment in the women's game other than just women, that would be the most inspiring thing to me," Rapinoe said.

"That's my ask of everybody. As professional footballers ... we have so much success, we have incredible platforms, I ask everybody here to lend your platform, to lift people up, to use this beautiful game to change the world for better."

Rapinoe finished with 46 ranking points to 42 for teammate Alex Morgan and 29 for England's Lucy Bronze.

After the ceremony, Rapinoe said being able to speak out about issues is more important to her than the actual award.

"I've been very lucky to have this incredibly platform that seems to be growing by the day and I plan to use



United States forward Megan Rapinoe, left, and Argentinian player Lionel Messi receive the best FIFA player awards during the ceremony of the Best FIFA Football Awards, in Milan's La Scala theater, northern Italy, Monday, Sept. 23, 2019.

it to the best of my ability," she told reporters. "The award's amazing of course but I don't do this for individual awards, certainly not.

"Even the team awards, the World Cup's obviously incredible to win but when we sort of all look back on it, it will be the way we've changed the game and moved the game forward and really been a part of changing the world, this incredible movement that's happening right now, that we'll all be most proud of."

Messi's award moved the Barcelona and Argentina forward one ahead of Cristiano Ronaldo. The Juventus forward did not attend the ceremony despite being among the three finalists.

The duo has dominated the award since 2008, with their string of victories only interrupted by Luka Modric last year.

Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk was the other finalist.

Messi finished with 46 ranking points to 38 for van Dijk and 36 for Ronaldo.

Aaron Long, given the U.S. captain's vote because he was among two players who wore the armband twice this year, voted for van Dijk, as did American coach Gregg Berhalter.

Van Dijk's club manager Jurgen Klopp was voted coach of the year after steering Liverpool to the Champions League title in June,

while teammate Alisson won the best men's goalkeeper award.

"I have to thank my team because as coach you can only be as good as your team is," Klopp said.

Ellis also thanked her players.

"I owe so much to them," she said.

Ellis resigned in July, shortly after the U.S. beat the Netherlands 2-0 to win its second successive World Cup.

The 53-year-old Ellis was hired as coach of the U.S. team in 2014 and led it to eight overall tournament titles, including back-to-back World Cup successes. Over the course of her tenure, the United States lost just seven matches.

Her players made up nearly half

of the women's team of the year, with Kelley O'Hara, Julie Ertz, Rose Lavelle and Morgan included in the 11 as well as Rapinoe.

"I think I walked out with Messi and no one noticed me," Ellis said jokingly to reporters, before adding: "It was such an honor, it really was. Fantastic night ... happy for my players to do so well as well on that stage so it was great."

The award for the best women's goalkeeper went to van Veenendaal of Atletico Madrid and the Netherlands.

The 29-year-old Van Veenendaal captained the Netherlands to the final of the women's World Cup.



**LOS ANGELES—** He has spent part of his summer enjoying the culinary delights that this cosmopolitan city has to offer. Rarely has Doc Rivers had to pay a cent.

The reason? The Los Angeles Clippers spent last summer landing Kawhi Leonard (as a free agent) and Paul George (in a trade with the Oklahoma City Thunder). Therefore, the Clippers have the chance to win an NBA championship in a city that has loved the Lakers more.

"I got a couple of free meals out of it," Rivers joked. "You also know if you don't win it, you have (to) pay for the rest of them."

The 29 other NBA teams would love to make Rivers pay for his tabs once again. Rivers seems partly driven by not needing to pick up the check again.

"I'm not going to be out in

## Rivers embraces Clippers being title favorites

the front saying we're going to win it. But I'm fine if that's what everybody thinks," Rivers said. "Why run from expectations? I've never understood that."

The Clippers appear in prime position to win their first NBA title in franchise history, and the reasons go beyond the acquisitions of Leonard and George. Clippers owner Steve Ballmer has deep pockets. Clippers general manager Lawrence Frank and legendary consultant Jerry West are well respected. Rivers has been a Hall-of-Fame caliber coach. The Clippers tested the Golden State Warriors in last season's first-round playoff series, pushing it to six games because of the team's depth and hustle.

Still, plenty of the Clippers' success this season hinges on

how productive and healthy Leonard and George remain.

After playing in nine games because of complications with a quadriceps injury in his final year in San Antonio, Leonard joined the Toronto Raptors and "load management" became part of the league's lexicon. After winning an NBA title in his lone season in Toronto, will Leonard follow the same program?

"I don't anticipate that being an issue," Rivers said. "It helps we're a pretty deep team."

As for George? Frank said that George has "made great progress" since having off-season surgery on his left shoulder, but declined to provide a timetable on his possible return.

The Clippers also have nine players from a bench that led the NBA last season in scor-

ing (53.4 points per game), including Lou Williams, Montrezl Harrell, JaMychal Green, Patrick Beverley and Landry Shamet. The Clippers also acquired Maurice Harkless in an offseason trade, and Rivers might also depend on rookies Mfiondu Kabengale and Terance Mann. Therefore, Rivers said his offense will center around Leonard, George and "parts of the right system for them and the team."

"I don't know if I've done the parade route and all of that. But you have to at least envision it," Rivers said. "I find myself doing that. Then you have to do the work."

That way, Rivers will not have to pay for many meals again.

### Grizzlies to let Iguodala sit out

The Memphis Grizzlies and

Andre Iguodala have reached an agreement that will allow the team to pursue a deal for the veteran forward but won't require him to attend training camp.

Iguodala arrived with the Grizzlies via trade from the Golden State Warriors this summer as his former team looked to shed his \$17.2 million salary to create cap space for roster moves.

Iguodala reportedly sought a buyout from the Grizzlies after the trade, but the team refused to engage in talks, preferring instead to seek a trade asset in return for the 15-year NBA veteran.

Monday's report amounts to a compromise that will allow the team to continue to pursue a trade but won't force Iguodala to play for a team he has no desire to play for.

It was reported Monday that

Iguodala has had a difficult time moving on from his time with the Warriors and has not been to Memphis since being traded.

He told his wife before the trade that he knew he might be dealt and joked about Memphis as the destination.

Iguodala will be permitted to work out privately and will take up a roster spot with the Grizzlies as they pursue potential trades, according to the report.

Both sides anticipate that a resolution may not be reached until deep into the season, according to the report.

A former NBA Finals MVP and three-time NBA champion with the Warriors, Iguodala could provide value as a rotation player for a team seeking a veteran presence on its roster.

His salary isn't necessarily commensurate with the value he would provide, limiting his trade prospects.



# Tsingtao Boyz zeroes in on No. 1 seeding

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
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REPORTER

**TSINGTAO** Tsingtao Boyz prevailed in its last match in the regular season of the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League after topping Docomo Pacific, 63-47, last weekend at the Civic Center Court.

Tsingtao finished the round-robin elimination with a 9-2 record to keep the top spot and unofficially take the No. 1 seeding in the play-off round. Only the Top 8 teams will advance to the next round and Tsingtao will meet the last qualifier in the single-elimination playoffs. Docomo fell to a 2-7 record and may need to sweep its last two games to remain in playoff contention.

The Docomo-Tsingtao game was back to square one at half-time, 21-all, before the latter took control in the third quarter. Tsingtao scored 28 points in the third frame for make up for its 7-point output in the second. Ed Pangelinan showed the way for Tsingtao in the pivotal period after drilling 9 points, while Jetzen Jandoc contributed 7.

Jandoc top-scored for Tsingtao with his 20 points, while Pangelinan added 14. Deleon Guerrero led Docomo with his 17 markers.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

A Tsingtao Boyz player is hemmed in by two Docomo Pacific defenders during their game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Saturday at the Civic Center Court.

## Gilas Batang 59, Mawati 55

Gilas Batang finally made it to the win column after stunning Mawati.

Gilas Batang used a 20-9 scoring run in the first quarter as cushion to beat Mawati and notch its first victory in the league after going 0-8.

Alken Ege delivered early for Gilas Batang after record-

ing 9 points in the first quarter. Mawati, on the other hand, got off to a bad start after making only four field goals in the opening canto.

Mawati picked up its scoring in the last three quarters, but Gilas Batang hung on to the lead to break its losing skid, leaving Light & Salt as the only team without a victory in the 12-squad field.

De Guzman paced IT&E with his 24 points, while Peredo and Rafols had a double-double, recording 20 points and 17 rebounds and 14 points and 18 rebounds, respectively. Itaas led Aqua with his 14 markers.

**IT&E 105—De Guzman**

24, Peredo 20, Rabasto 15, Rafols 12, Barbo 11, Esdrelon 11, Demapan 8, Talania 2.

**Aqua Resort Club 65—**Itaas 14, Deleon Guerrero 12, Arellano 10, Mendiola 9, Salazar 6, Maratita 6, David 4, Secharmidal 2, Telan 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 25-19, 51-33, 83-48, 105-65

Ege paced Gilas Batang with his 17 points, while Ray Velasco led the way for Mawati with his 15 markers.

## First Game

**Gilas Batang 59—**Ege 17, Lumanlam 11, Alure 6, Tibayan 6, Acosta 6, Estores 4, De Jesus 3, Rosario 2, Dacumos

2, Hernandez 2.

**Mawati 55—**Velasco 15, Ferrer 11, Directo 8, Quizon 6, Gontar 5, Reyes 3, Enriquez 3, Nonato 2, Avila 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 20-9, 35-32, 46-44, 69-55.

## Second Game

**Tsingtao Boyz 63—**Jandoc

20, Pangelinan 14, Pineda 9, Giron 8, Broncano 4, Rivera 3, Demonte Verde 3, Ariar 2.

**Docomo Pacific 47—**Deleon Guerrero 17, Grow 8, Manibusan 6, Lukas 6, Sanciango 4, Sanchez 2, Mendiola 2, Kaipat 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 14-9, 21-21, 49-36, 63-47.

## Basketball referee course this weekend

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
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REPORTER

The Mariana Islands Basketball Federation will be hosting a referee/table official course on Sept. 27 and 28 and it will be open to all interested individuals, clubs, and school officials.

According to MIBF official Elias Rangamar, the course is designed to give one a better understanding of the referee's role and to start an individual off on the way to becoming an expert in officiating.

The course is accredited by FIBA Oceania and divided into two categories. The junior referee program will be held this Friday from 1pm to 4pm with a \$5 fee, while the adult program will take place this Saturday from 10am to 4pm with a \$10 fee. Both courses will be held at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rangamar said the course will be administered by Frank Cruz and Roy Dirige of Guam Basketball Confederation.

"Frank Cruz is the secretary general for Guam basketball with extensive background as a referee in the Micronesian and Oceania region. He was designated head referee for the

Micronesian Games in Yap in 2018," said Rangamar.

Coordinating with Cruz will be Dirige, who is currently the basketball commissioner for GBC and holds a vast regional and international experience. Dirige just attended the U17 FIBA Oceania Youth Tournament in New Caledonia last month as an assistant referee evaluator, Rangamar added.

The course will touch base on official signals, offer vid-

eo training, and discuss new rules in the role, floor mechanics (2-PO or 3PO), and beep test. A written test will also be given and at the end of the course, there will be an evaluation.

For more information or to register, contact Rangamar at 287-6347 or email him at ejrangamar@gmail.com. Interested applicants can also stop by the Oleai Sports Complex to pick up a registration form.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Referee Dado Vistal, left, keeps a close eye on the play between Atkins Kroll and Saipan Vegas players during the first game in the Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last Friday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. A referee course will be held this weekend at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

## IT&E

From Page 28

winning margin.

Aqua Resort fell way behind IT&E, as it had no player making more than two field goals in each of the first three periods and only Kristian Itaas scored three baskets in the final canto.

## TANHOLDINGS

From Page 28

the first shot in the sixth minute, while John Michael Rojas handed MP United its second goal in the 20th minute. Three minutes later, Oliver Lee scored, while John Bucayo made it four in a row for MP United.

With the game secured, MP United loosened up a bit on defense, allowing Matansa to score. Ronnel Ocanada tallied both goals with his first registered in the 69th minute and the second in the 72nd.

## Kanoa 4, TanHoldings 4

Kanoa forced a draw against TanHoldings in the second match in the division.

Andreu Omelau drilled the game-tying goal in the 73rd minute, adding to his two earlier conversions in the third and ninth minute. Sebastian Manabat posted the other goal for Kanoa when he found his target in the 63rd minute.



An MP United Football Club player dribbles away from two TanHoldings FC defenders during the second half of their match in the coed U12 A division of the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Kobleville.

Despite Kanoa's two early goals, TanHoldings managed to grab the upper hand at the break behind the two goals apiece from Jonathan Capayas

and Kaden Church. Capayas scored in the 13th and 32nd minute, while Church delivered in the 34th and 38th minute to hand TanHoldings a 4-2

halftime edge.

TanHoldings failed to keep the lead in the second half, as Manabat and Omelau saved the day for Kanoa.

## AGAPE

From Page 28

School Volleyball League last Thursday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Agape eked out a 25-20 victory in the first set and then had an easier triumph in the second, 25-17, for the sweep.

In the GCA-Mt. Carmel showdown, the Lady Eagles also needed only two sets to down MCS 1, 25-13, 25-7. For its second game, GCA eased past MCS 2 in the opening set, 25-8, and then duplicated its earlier win after a 25-17 triumph in the second.

Meanwhile, SIS 1, MHS 2, Saipan Southern High School, and Kagman High School were the other teams that competed in last Thursday's games.

The Lady Geckos 1 earned a double-digit win over MCS 2 in the first set, 25-15, and then secured the sweep with a dominant victory, 25-9.

While SIS 1 eased its way past MCS 2, it was a different story for MHS 2, which took three sets to notch the win. The Lady Dolphins got the first set, 25-19, but the Lady Manta Rays redeemed themselves in the second set, 25-15. With the game tied, the opposing squads played in the deciding third set with MHS 2 winning, 15-8.

Last Thursday's games were the last set of matches played in the league, which is put on hold until repairs at the MHS Gymnasium are done.

Public School System's Student Support Services athletic program director Nick Gross announced last Monday that they are postponing after-school sports programs at the facility after discovering additional damage at the gym. PSS does not want students to play in an unsafe facility and it vowed to fast-track the repair work so games can resume by next week.



Goldschmidt hits  
HR in Arizona  
return, Cards win

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# Saipan Tribune Sports



Bears get offense  
on track, beat  
Redskins

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# TanHoldings FC wins debut



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

An Agape Christian School player returns the ball to Saipan International School 2 during their game in the 2019-2020 PSS Interscholastic Girls High School Volleyball League last Thursday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

## Agape, GCA beat opponents

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
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REPORTER

Agape Christian School defeated Saipan International School 2 in two sets, while Grace Christian Academy



topped two Mt. Carmel School teams in the 2019-2020 PSS Interscholastic Girls High

See AGAPE on Page 27



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**T**anHoldings Football Club drew first blood in the coed U12 A division of the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League after beating MP United, 4-2, last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

TanHoldings Football Club's Morico Claridades, center, intercepts a pass intended for an MP United player during the second half of their game in the coed U12 A division of the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

## IT&E cruises past Aqua Resort

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

IT&E earned its widest winning margin so far in the Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League following a 105-65 rout of Aqua Resort Club last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The 40-point victory also gave IT&E its fourth triumph in as many matches, putting the team in a tie for first place in the standings with Saipan Vegas. IT&E's three other wins were against MS Villagomez (88-54), Caravan's (77-52), and Bridge Capital, LLC (92-83).

IT&E set up its third lopsided triumph after pulling away in the second quarter, which started with the squad

ahead by only 6, 25-19. The lead ballooned to 18 at the break, 51-33, with Sean Rabasto, Elmer Esdrelon, and Jaymark De Guzman teaming up in the breakaway. Rabasto scored 8 points, while Esdrelon and De Guzman combined for 10.

De Guzman, who finished with 8 points in the first half, surpassed that output in the third quarter alone after firing 14 markers to pad IT&E's lead to 35, 83-48.

The former Saipan Southern High School standout was then held scoreless in the final period, but that did not matter, as Errol Peredo, Paolo Rafols, and Darwin Barbo finished off Aqua Resort Club to secure the huge

See IT&E on Page 27



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

IT&E's Marlon De Dios is forced to kick the ball out as he faces two Bridge Capital, LLC defenders during an earlier game in the Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last week at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Andrei Kaitlyn Chavez towed TanHoldings to its season debut victory after scoring a hat trick, while Morico Claridades delivered the other goal for the squad. William Lee registered the pair of goals for MP United.

Chavez registered the first goal of the season in the division, which had its opening games last Sept. 14 rescheduled due to rain, after finding her target in the 26th minute. That was also the lone goal recorded in the first half, while Chavez took a long breather before returning to the pitch past the halfway mark of the second half to make two more goals in a span of five minutes. She tallied her second goal in the 62nd minute and completed the hat trick in the 67th.

In between Chavez's pair of goals, Claridades connected one with his shot logged in the 65th.

Earlier in the 38th minute,

Lee equalized for MP United, but his team eventually fell behind anew, as the losing squad had another drought. Lee then ended MP United's long silence with his second goal one minute into the extra time.

Meanwhile, Kanoa Football Club got a free 3-0 win over Shirley's FC, as the latter did not have enough players for the other match in the coed U12A division.

### BOYS U18 DIVISION MP United 4, Matansa 2

In last Friday's first match, MP United outclassed Matansa for its second victory in as many games.

Four different players scored for MP United, three of them lit up the board in the first half to take control of the match. Floyd Muna converted

See TANHOLDINGS on Page 27